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**Date:** Submission re Scientific Inquiry into Hydraulic Fracture Stimulation in WA.  
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My name is Diana Oliver. I first visited the Kimberley in 1988. I have lived in Broome for 6 years, and intend to stay. I am not a scientist, nor an economic rationalist. I respect and have a great interest in science, especially in the field of ecology. My primary interests lie in bush regeneration and native agro forestry projects, (Bush Tucker).

In my 60+years of working and travelling (more than 38 countries) I have witnessed the severe degradation of soils, waterways, wetlands, wilderness areas and consequentially, ecological systems.

I have read a document called "Information on Unconventional Gas Development for WA For a Scientific Inquiry". This document succinctly voices my fears. It articulates the many instances where/when fracking has resulted in ground water contamination, ill health in human communities and livestock, an intensification of greenhouse gases, the frequency of well failure, and the necessity for land clearing for wells and infrastructure.

I fully support its findings and ask that Hydraulic Fracture Stimulation (Fracking), be permanently banned in WA.

Some of my primary concerns are as follows:

1. The high risk of ground and surface water contamination. The reference to using "only household chemicals" made by the industry (Buru) at previous community information sessions, is rather odd. Bleach, Domestos etc are toxic chemicals, and further research indicates the statement to be a gross understatement. In the Kimberley our water is pristine. The irregularity and intensity of the rainfall means open ponds and dams are vulnerable to overflow and flooding. This is a fragile ecosystem, fauna and flora are dependant upon uncontaminated conditions. Growing evidence shows that regulations are not capable of preventing harm. Human and technological errors abound within the industry.
2. The idea that gas is a transition fuel is to be disputed. Promoting gas prevents the necessary investment in, and development of, cleaner fuel sources. Australia is a long way behind Europe and China in developing renewable energy. Burning off gas releases large quantities of methane, a huge contributor to greenhouse gases. It also releases ozone gas, which, at ground level has known health impacts.
3. The "Brumours" I hear, living in Broome, indicate that the negotiation process' between the Industry and the Traditional Owners are often severely flawed. The lack of information, the biased presentation of information, the language barriers and possibly the illiteracy rates amongst Elders, leave the people living "On Country" vulnerable to exploitation, deception and bullying. I am sceptical that the Energy and Mining sector are anything other than self interested. I hope I am wrong.
4. I am self interested. I love the Kimberley for its LACK of industrialisation, its ' wide open spaces. I do not wish to see more roads, pipelines, land clearing, traffic, FiFo workers, or gas wells. I wish to witness the ongoing development of eco tourism, Indigenous Heritage tours, native agro forestry projects (bush tucker) and to

develop the great potential for solar power generation. The Kimberley attracts tourists from all over the world and continues to win awards for the industry. There are a lot of scenic airplane and helicopter tours. Who wants to see the native bush carved up with seismic lines, gas wells, pipelines etc.?

5. I recently heard the current push by the industry to develop fracking described as a more subtle and insidious version of the late 19th century land grabs of the cattle and gold mining leases. Water holes were fenced off for cattle only, or poisoned to force the Indigenous people to move off their lands. Just thought I'd mention that!

Thankyou for your attention,

yours sincerely,

Diana Oliver (Ms).