

**SUBMISSION TO : WA SCIENTIFIC ENQUIRY INTO HYDRAULIC
FRACTURE STIMULATION**

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Organisation : Moora Concerned Citizens Fracking Group

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I am a farmer in the Dandaragan Shire between Moora and Dandaragan. My locations are Lot 1616 and Lot 76. I own 110 hectares of land of remarkable beauty and opportunity. My family enjoy it's natural beauty of trees, wildlife, good soils and an abundance of fresh water. The property is watered by a bore in the Jurien/Perth/Parmelia/Leederville basins and has a water license of 20,000 kls. We are currently growing passionfruit, almonds and various vegetables. The property also runs livestock and the water also provides for the homestead and domestic related orchard and poultry.

My motivation behind this submission is a concern for my family's future and the future of the Moora/Dandaragan community. From the meetings that I have attended, surveys that I have been involved in and the literature that I have read and testimonies I have heard gives me serious misgivings. The long and short term effects of the unconventional gas industry, including current safe guards, all fall short of safe and productive outcomes.

Farmers who acted in ignorance in the past are now reaping the consequences of over clearing creating salt affected land. Compared to fracking I believe the consequences are far worse for the latter. To put ground water, that very precious commodity beneath the surface, at certain risk of contamination is unthinkable in my opinion. This doesn't include the destruction of a way of life which we now enjoy but which will be threatened by pollution in many forms. Some of these are ; dust, noise, traffic, roads, pipelines, machinery, dams containing poisonous waste and bright lights

going all hours of the night. These are all factors swept under the carpet by an industry claiming integrity in its mode of operation but with a history that proves otherwise. This goes not only for Australia but for many other countries around the world.

My research indicates that the three types of unconventional gas fracking have all been found to be less than perfect in reality. These three types are coalseam gas, tight gas and shale gas fracking. Add to this outcome the strong likelihood of methane and other poisonous substances released from the various strata and not to mention the carcinogenic and other harmful chemicals used in large quantities for the facilitation of the fracturing process and you have a cocktail which will definitely leak into our precious water aquifers and also into the air we breathe. Imagine the network of roads, pipelines, processing plants and the whole gamut of infrastructure which will be produced and one may begin to appreciate how we as a family feel about our future on the land.

The Porter family have farmed in the Moora/Dandaragan area since 1909 and see this encroachment as a gross disregard for all that we have worked for and hold dear.

If the gas was necessary for the benefit of the community or state, one could perhaps understand, but since the industry seems driven by business and profiteering surely other options are available to it.

Another serious concern is the vast devaluation of our property due to the impact on the land.

In the surveys that I have been involved in, I can honestly say, that I did not meet one person who is not concerned about the impact of unconventional gas fracking in this area. NOT ONE!!!

This industry offers nothing in the way of local spin-offs to employment, associated business opportunities and other economic positives. We as a family are seriously considering the sale of our property before this becomes a reality and even now it is a factor in people's thinking when looking at buying or selling land in this area. We believe the government needs to give

an assurance that no fracking will occur above or below our water supplies or on any agricultural or reserve land involved in this project.

To summarise, our concerns are

- **Health and ground water impacts.**
- **Pollution and other destructive affects.**
- **Devaluation of property values.**
- **Demise of Moora/Dandaragan community and the area as an important agricultural hub.**
- **Positive outcomes almost non- existent.**

Resolution.

We think the government has a duty to the people of this area, the metropolitan area and indeed the whole state of WA to implement a ban on all unconventional gas fracking for the reasons outlined above. There may be many more good reasons but these are some of the most significant as we understand the situation. Until industry can convince us otherwise, we stand immovable as a family and community in our determination to pressure this government to do what we believe to be their elected duty.