



Subject:

Shire of Mundaring submission to WA fracking inquiry

Date:

Wednesday, 14 March 2018 4:35:00 PM

Attachments:

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Hi

The Shire of Mundaring considered the issue of fracking in December 2016. The Council report noted:

Even where no viable reserves are found, exploratory actions can result in environmental impacts. Given the environmental risks and community concerns about unconventional gas extraction it appears a precautionary approach would be appropriate by not allowing this industry within the Perth metropolitan area, and particularly within drinking water catchments.

... Even if many individual local governments pursue scheme amendments to prohibit this development on zoned land, there are substantial areas within regional reserves that are not subject to local planning controls. Development on regional reserves is generally determined by the Western Australian Planning Commission (WAPC).

Council resolved unanimously to:

- 1. Not support any form of unconventional gas mining including shale and tight gas fracking within the local government boundary due to the need to act with a precautionary approach to residential populations, sensitive natural environments, underground water resources and rural and horticultural land uses; and*
- 2. Writes to the WAPC to investigate consideration of planning controls for unconventional gas exploration or extraction under the Metropolitan Region Scheme.*

Officers advise that should the current Moratorium be lifted, a regulatory framework must include specific provisions for fracking within the land use planning system. This should ideally include prohibitions on fracking through regional planning schemes (including the Perth Metropolitan Region Scheme) where substantial populations and drinking water sources are concentrated. Other areas may have prohibitions or strict controls within local planning schemes to protect residential populations, sensitive natural environments, agricultural production and groundwater and drinking water resources.

Regards

Briony Moran

Co-ordinator Environment & Sustainability



You can contact the Shire on 9290 6666 if I am not available and ask to speak to an Environmental or Planning Officer.

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