



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY
13th Assembly

Petition

Registration No.	22
Title	Ban Unconventional Onshore Gas mining
Presented on	15 March 2018
Presented by	Hon Kezia Purick MLA (Member for Goyder)
Referred to	Minister for Primary Industry and Resources
Date referred	15 March 2018
Response due	15 August 2018
Response received	8 May 2018
Response presented	10 May 2018

Petition

A Petition to the Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory

To Ban Unconventional On shore Gas Mining.

To the Speaker, Chief Minister and Members of the Legislative Assembly,

Unconventional on shore gas mining poses a profusion of risks with catastrophic consequences to the Northern Territory. There is a Plethora of both scientific and anecdotal evidence that 'fracking' causes water contamination, water depletion, air pollution, earthquakes, noise pollution, traffic issues, social issues, health issues, and releases climate changing greenhouse gases. It will negatively impact tourism, agriculture, horticulture, aquaculture, and everyday life. We can live without gas but we can't live without clean air and water

We, the undersigned citizens of the Northern Territory, do respectfully demand that unconventional gas mining (fracking) be banned in the Northern Territory

Response

The NT Government understands the community concerns regarding the emerging oil and gas industry in the Northern Territory and announced a moratorium and independent scientific inquiry into hydraulic fracture stimulation on 14 September 2016.

The Independent Scientific Inquiry into Hydraulic Fracturing in the Northern Territory was extensive and took 15 months to complete. During that time the Inquiry Panel held 52 community forums, 151 public hearings and received 1 257 written submissions.

The Panel released its final report on 27 March 2018, making 135 recommendations to mitigate to acceptable levels the identified risks associated with on shore gas development.

Government has accepted all 135 recommendations of the inquiry, including the key finding that hydraulic fracturing of on shore unconventional shale gas reservoirs may proceed under very strict conditions and in tightly prescribed areas. By developing a robust regulatory framework we can ensure that any on shore shale gas industry develops in a safe manner that protects the environment and meets community expectations.

Implementation of the recommendations will be a staged process, led by a team established within the Department of the Chief Minister, and will be overseen by an independent officer to ensure that it is done transparently and effectively. A reference group will be established to provide feedback to Government from key stakeholders on the development of the implementation framework.