



## Petition

Registration No.	37
Title	Exploring and extracting shale oil and gas
Presented on	15 May 2014
Presented by	Mr Kon Vatskalis MLA (Member for Casuarina)
Referred to	Mines & Energy (Minister Westra van Holthe)
Date referred	15 May 2014
Response due	29 October 2014
Response received	31 July 2014
Response to be presented	19 August 2014

### Petition

TO THE HONOURABLE SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

We, the undersigned petitioners, respectfully call on the Legislative Assembly to:

- urgently establish moratoriums on exploring for, and extracting, shale oil and gas, and
- urgently establish an independent, scientific inquiry into the risks to human health, water and the environment posed by techniques such as hydraulic fracturing ('fracking').

YOUR PETITIONERS THEREFORE HUMBLY ask that the Legislative Assembly urgently act to strengthen Northern Territory mining and environment laws so that following areas are permanently protected from shale oil and gas mining:

- sensitive environmental areas, especially National Parks and other intact vegetation;
- precious Indigenous, cultural, heritage and recreational areas
- vital water sources
- residential areas
- food producing areas

### Response

The Northern Territory Government values the concern expressed within the community as important, and as a result, has called for an inquiry into hydraulic fracturing activities in the Territory. The terms of reference for this inquiry is available at the following website address: <http://www.hydraulicfracturinginquiry.nt.gov.au/index.html>

The Northern Territory's petroleum industry is already rigorously regulated and additionally, I can report that the Territory's existing petroleum legislation is under review, to ensure that industry advances in technology are captured by our regulatory regime and continue to meet leading practice requirements.

It is encouraging that Territorians express their views on issues they feel are important in their community.