

Submission to the Scientific Inquiry into Hydraulic Fracturing

I am a member of the Central Australian Frack Free Alliance (CAFFA), I have lived in Alice Springs for 23 years and I am gravely concerned about the impact of hydraulic fracturing on our land and water.

My concerns are about the following points:

- We have a sole supply of water. **Any** risk to our precious water supply is too great, as once our water supply is contaminated the entire town would no longer be a viable place to visit.
- Multiple scientific studies show that unconventional wells leak. A study of shale gas wells in Pennsylvania shows that 6.2% of unconventional gas wells have a well, barrier or integrity failure and this failure rate increases as the gas well ages. This level failure is unacceptable considering our water supply.
- The Concerned Health Professionals of New York raised contamination of drinking water by fracking as an issue in 2015.
- There are insufficient peer reviewed studies to prove that it is safe. Insufficient data does not make it ok to risk out water.
- Shale gas bores leak methane and methane is 84 times more potent than carbon dioxide. The National Pollutants Inventory shows a large increase in air pollution due to the Kenya Processing Plan near Tara QLD.
- NASA has shown measurable methane gas leakage over gas fields in the US.
- Underground pressurized chemical extraction introduces chemicals into an already fragile environment. Any introduction of chemicals will cause lasting irreparable damage.
- With climate change why are we investing in gas extraction? We need to be developing renewable energy investing for our future, not relying on gas extraction for companies to make money at the expense of the land and people.

Yours sincerely,

HARSHINI BARTLETT 22/04/17

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