

**From:** Alex Ariston  
**To:** [fracking inquiry](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Community Update #18  
**Date:** Saturday, 5 August 2017 10:59:54 PM

I must say this community update is a little confusing. Firstly I am aware that this is not the last public meeting but feel the time of notification of this meeting is very short. Unlike the panel I don't live and breathe what is going on as I have work and family commitments. I would of thought it better for us to have the time to read the interim report rather than go to a meeting with the panel only for them to explain the contents of the interim report. I think we can work that out for ourselves. Would it not be better for us to front up with question we would like answered after reading the report? It goes on to say in the update "receive feedback from the community on the interim report" give us the time to read it and then we can discuss our findings at the public meeting and the panel can then take our queries on board. The panel have special people with them to take down notes much easier than us having to do submissions afterwards as well. With respect we are ordinary people trying to stop our land and water being contaminated by industries who on record have gone into other states and countries made their money and left contaminated land and water and no responsibility. We are asking for your help in getting all this right, so please don't make it hard for us to get involved.  
As for having the meetings when people are at work!!!! I think you will have better presentation at 5:30 as I can't see any boss letting their employees off early to attend a fracking meeting. Public service workers who are all for a ban don't come along to any meetings because of conflict of interest working for the government!!! So who is going to turn up!!! All a bit sus to me.

**From:** Scientific Inquiry into Hydraulic Fracturing in the NT [<mailto:fracking.inquiry@nt.gov.au>]  
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4 August 2017

## Community Update #18

Inquiry Chair Justice Rachel Pepper advises that the community consultation scheduled for next week in Katherine, Tennant Creek, Alice Springs, Humpty Doo and Darwin is not the "final phase of community consultation" for the Inquiry.

"The community consultation sessions to be held next week are an opportunity for the Inquiry Panel to present the Interim Report to the community in urban towns and cities in the Northern Territory and for the community to ask questions, engage with the Inquiry Panel and further understand the contents of the Interim Report," said Justice Rachel Pepper.

"It has been incorrectly assumed and reported that these sessions are the 'final phase of community consultation' for the Inquiry.

"This is not the case. As I have repeatedly said throughout the Inquiry, we will be releasing a draft Final Report later this year which will be followed by a final round of face-to-face community consultation.

"I have stated on many occasions at community meetings, through community updates, when meeting with stakeholders, at public hearings and to the media, that the Inquiry will accept submissions at any time during the course of our proceedings.

"During previous community forums held in March this year the Inquiry received feedback that people had difficulty attending these events after 5pm due to after work and family commitments, so for this round of community forums we have tried to accommodate these concerns by holding the meetings during business hours or late afternoon.

"The Inquiry will also be travelling to remote communities from 21 August 2017 discussing the work of the Inquiry to date as outlined in the Interim Report, the work still to be completed by the Inquiry and to receive feedback from the community on the Interim Report and any other matters of concern."

For more information on community forums and other information related to the Inquiry go to [www.frackinginquiry.nt.gov.au](http://www.frackinginquiry.nt.gov.au)

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