



## **Questionnaire on shale gas fracking, to all political parties and candidates contesting the August 2016 Territory election**

Please answer **Yes** or **No** for each of the following questions. Feel free to also add additional comments to your answers.

**Your answers will be made available to the public via Lock the Gate, the Northern Territory Frack Free Alliance and community networks across the Territory.**

1) Will you set up an independent scientific panel of experts to provide binding advice on the issues surrounding shale gas fracking and its social, environmental and public health impacts?

YES

Optional comment:

2) Will you ensure full baseline studies of ground and surface water quality and quantity are undertaken and publicly available before drilling for shale gas commences?

YES

Optional comment:

3) Will you prevent the risks of shale gas fracking in the Territory by halting the industry until it can be proven safe, by:

- A ban on any development of the shale gas industry for at least 5 years
- A moratorium on shale gas drilling until science and community concerns are fully researched and resolved
- Other, please outline: I support a total ban on fracking. I support investment in renewable energy

4) Will you support the right of landholders and Traditional Owners to say no to shale gas extraction on their properties and lands?

YES

Optional comment:

5) Would you support a chain of responsibility for resource extraction framework that:

Ensures parent companies of mines and executives are responsible for financial clean up of pollution even if companies go bankrupt during mining or rehabilitation, to ensure the burden does not fall on the local landholder or the NT Government?

YES

Optional comment:

6) Will you support a truly independent EPA with the lead assessment, enforcement and compliance power over fracking and mining companies? Will the EPA set strict regulations on waste management and pollution by shale gas companies and hold operators legally and financially accountable?

YES

Optional comment:

7) Will you review currently approved onshore gas areas and implement 'no go zones' over drinking water catchments and groundwater recharge areas, regional and remote community living areas and important tourism regions, so they are protected from onshore shale gas fracking?

YES

Optional comment: I support a total ban of fracking across the Territory.

8) In the event of water contamination in areas of the NT targeted by shale gas fracking, do you support a policy where it is up to the companies involved to prove they didn't contaminate the water? (This would replace the current system where the onus of proof falls on the landholder to prove their water was clean before shale gas extraction operated in the area.)

YES

Optional comment:

9) Will you mandate under law that shale gas companies must hold comprehensive environmental pollution insurance before they can operate in the NT and that they hold a substantial bond for at least 25 years after fracking concludes to cover any future damages?

YES

Optional comment:

**Thank you for completing this survey that is of great interest to Territory residents. Please email your completed questionnaire to [FrackFreeNT@gmail.com](mailto:FrackFreeNT@gmail.com).**