

Ulyatt, Rick – Thursday, 30 May 2019 – 13:50:45

Subject	Objection to Origin's Kyalla frack site in the NT
From	Rick Ulyatt
Sent	30/05/2019 1:50:45 PM

Dear Onshore Gas division,

I am writing to express my objection to the Environmental Management Plan submitted by Origin Energy for the Kyalla frack site in the Northern Territory.

My key concerns with this plan are outlined below.

FRACKING SUBSTANCES ARE POISON

The fracking chemicals Origin plans to use are harmful to health. The list of substances Origin want to use have known health impacts. An independent review of the substances shows they are linked to: acute toxicity, respiratory irritation, tissue damage, burns, and cancer. Some are very toxic to aquatic life with long lasting effects.

Plus there are 'trade name' fracking chemicals that do not have any health data available.

OPEN AIR WASTEWATER TANKS POSE UNACCEPTABLE RISK

It is unacceptable that Origin would use open air wastewater dams or 'tanks' to store the toxic flowback fluid.

This flowback and drilling fluid is full of nasties including heavy metals, fracking chemicals and naturally occurring radioactive materials.

Evaporation pits and open toxic tanks pose a risk to the incredible threatened birdlife that visits the site, including the Gouldian Finch, and should not be open and accessible to birdlife at any time.

WET SEASON RISKS WITH WASTE ON SITE

It is deeply concerning that instead of storing toxic wastewater in enclosed tanks, Origin are planning open dams all through the wet and dry seasons. Not only could this kill birds, but extreme weather events could cause downstream pollution impacts.

Origin's site is upstream of Lake Woods, a place of international significance for biodiversity. The catchment should be off limits to fracking.

TRANSPORT RISKS AND TOURISM IMPACTS

Origin says they care about cumulative impacts, but have failed to talk to tourism operators about the risks of increased traffic on the Stuart Highway, or to people living downstream from their fracking exploration activities.

Plus, Origin want to dump on Queensland and truck the toxic waste to an undetermined site. Already Queensland has millions of tonnes of toxic salt waste that there is no permanent disposal solution for. This is unacceptable.

BUSHFIRE RISKS AND TOTAL FIRE BAN DAYS

This area is sensitive to bushfires. Rural Fire Brigades have been calling for gas companies to stop ignition sources and flaring on total fire ban days. Origin must be made to stop all flaring on total fire ban days.

Thank you for considering my concerns.

Yours sincerely,
Rick Ulyatt
Booyong, New South Wales, 2480, Australia

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Please reply to Rick Ulyatt at *****.

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Umrigar, Gool – Tuesday, 28 May 2019 – 21:01:22

Subject	Objection to Origin Energy's Environmental Management Plan for the Kyalla Drilling and Hydraulic Fracturing 2019 Program EP117 N2
From	Gool Umrigar
Sent	28/05/2019 9:01:22 PM

We do NOT WANT a climate disaster. This is exactly what will happen if Origin starts fracking in the Northern Territory. FRACKING is dirty & very dangerous.

Gool Umrigar

NSW 2073

Underwood, Jim – Sunday, 26 May 2019 – 15:54:32

Subject	Objection to Origin's Kyalla frack site in the NT
From	Jim Underwood
Sent	26/05/2019 3:54:32 PM

Dear Onshore Gas division,

I am writing to express my objection to the Environmental Management Plan submitted by Origin Energy for the Kyalla frack site in the Northern Territory.

My key concerns with this plan are outlined below.

FRACKING SUBSTANCES ARE POISON

The fracking chemicals Origin plans to use are harmful to health. The list of substances Origin want to use have known health impacts. An independent review of the substances shows they are linked to: acute toxicity, respiratory irritation, tissue damage, burns, and cancer. Some are very toxic to aquatic life with long lasting effects.

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This area is sensitive to bushfires. Rural Fire Brigades have been calling for gas companies to stop ignition sources and flaring on total fire ban days. Origin must be made to stop all flaring on total fire ban days.

Thank you for considering my concerns.

Yours sincerely,
Jim Underwood
William Bay, Western Australia, 6333, Australia

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Usami, Chris – Wednesday, 29 May 2019 – 12:06:17

Subject	Re: Objection to Origin Energy's Environmental Management Plan (EMP)
From	Chris Usami
Sent	29/05/2019 12:06:17 PM

To whom it may concern at the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR),

Re: Objection to Origin Energy's Environmental Management Plan (EMP) for the Kyalla Drilling and Hydraulic Fracturing 2019 Program EP117 N2

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission regarding this issue.

I write this submission to ask the Department of Environment and Natural Resources to outright reject Origin Energy's EMP to protect the land, water, health and wellbeing of impacted communities as well as our shared future from climate change.

As a member of the community, I am deeply concerned about the risks associated with Origin Energy's plans for drilling and hydraulic fracturing in the Northern Territory. I strongly object to the approval of this EMP for the following reasons:

1. Approval of this EMP will lead to irreversible climate change impacts for people of the Northern Territory and beyond. The Northern Territory is already experiencing the impacts of climate change, and is predicted to be one of the most severely impacted if emissions are not rapidly reduced [1]. Remote Aboriginal communities across the NT feel this first and worst: extreme heat waves, water shortages and more extreme flooding could force many Aboriginal people to move off their country. Approving this EMP, one of nine exploration wells, would signal the Beetaloo Basin as "open for business" to the expansion of the gas industry, potentially leading to emissions 20 times Australia's total current annual emissions [2]. This would pose a serious climate change threat to communities across the NT and beyond.

2. Storage of wastewater in open air tanks poses unacceptable risks and is incompatible with the Scientific Inquiry into Hydraulic Fracturing in the Northern Territory (Inquiry) recommendation 7.12 that stated "enclosed tanks must be used to hold all wastewater." [3] Climate change means that seasons and weather patterns are changing, particularly across the NT in relation to wet season (Oct 2018 to April 2019 was the driest wet season since 1992 and the hottest wet season on record) [4]. This means that there can be big storms out of season, and having open tanks with fracking wastewater (at any time of the year) would put drinking water, wildlife and health of community members and children at risk, including communities up and downstream.

3. Origin Energy have failed to appropriately consult with all Traditional Owners, Aboriginal people and impacted communities. A report from the Jumbunna Institute for Indigenous Education and Research (UTS) found that most, if not all, exploration permits issued in the Northern Territory (including Origin Energy) for unconventional gas were issued in the absence of Free, Prior and Informed Consent from Traditional Owners [5]. Furthermore, the Inquiry found that Aboriginal communities overwhelmingly opposed fracking on their land. The findings from the UTS report suggest reasons for concerns regarding all of Origin Energy's consultation practices, including consultation regarding this Environmental Management Plan with all Traditional Owners, Aboriginal communities and appropriate cultural authorities for the areas impacted both directly and indirectly.

4. The use of dangerous chemicals poses huge risks to the environment, water and community health and are exacerbated by the use of open storage tanks. There are some really concerning chemicals that Origin Energy plans to use down well and store on-site over the dry and wet seasons. This means that the chemicals will not only be used down the well in the high pressure fracking process, but will also pose a risk at the surface when in open storage as flowback fluid.

For these reasons, any plans for drilling and hydraulic fracturing, including exploration, should not be allowed to go ahead under any circumstances.

Below are a list of my recommendations:

1. The DENR should take a precautionary approach to the cumulative climate impacts of this exploration well - knowing the risk of the expansion of the gas industry in the Northern Territory will have dangerous and irreversible impacts on our climate in a time when we need to rapidly decarbonise the global economy and energy system.

2. All waste water should be held in enclosed tanks at all times.

3. We request that additional time, including a consultation period and process, is allowed for Traditional Owners, Aboriginal communities and appropriate cultural authorities for the areas directly and indirectly impacted by this EMP to consider this information and be given a fair chance to ask questions and respond.

4. All chemicals must be adequately health tested before being used in any fracking processes. They should also require companies to publicly disclose the identities and Chemical Abstracts Service numbers of chemicals that are manufactured commercially, and identify oil and gas wells in which the chemicals are used.

I write this submission in support of many Aboriginal communities across the Northern Territory, primarily within the Beetaloo region, who are concerned about the potential damages that fracking could cause to water, to country, to songlines as well as the long term effects of climate change.

I wait with serious concern for your response to these matters.

[1] The Australia Institute "Cooked with gas" 2018
<http://www.tai.org.au/sites/default/files/P510%20Cooked%20with%20gas%20-%20Darwin%20days%20over%2035C%20FINAL.pdf>

[2] The Australia Institute "NT gas compared to coal-fired power plants"
<http://www.tai.org.au/content/nt-gas-compared-coal-fired-power-plants>

[3] Final Report of the Scientific Inquiry into Hydraulic Fracturing in the Northern Territory 2018 <https://frackinginquiry.nt.gov.au/inquiry-reports?a=494286>

[4] Bureau of Meteorology "Seasonal Climate Summary for Northern Territory"
<http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/current/season/nt/summary.shtml>

[5] Jumbunna Institute for Education and Research "Hydraulic Fracturing and Free, Prior and Informed Consent in the Northern Territory: A Literature Review" <https://accr.org.au/wp-content/uploads/Jumbunna-FPIC-review-final.pdf>

Yours sincerely,
Chris Usami

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Uthayakumaran, Satara – Saturday, 25 May 2019 – 16:56:35

Subject	Re: Objection to Origin Energy's Environmental Management Plan (EMP)
From	Satara Uthayakumaran
Sent	25/05/2019 4:56:35 PM

To whom it may concern at the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR),

Re: Objection to Origin Energy's Environmental Management Plan (EMP) for the Kyalla Drilling and Hydraulic Fracturing 2019 Program EP117 N2

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission regarding this issue.

I write this submission to ask the Department of Environment and Natural Resources to outright reject Origin Energy's EMP to protect the land, water, health and wellbeing of impacted communities as well as our shared future from climate change.

As a member of the community, I am deeply concerned about the risks associated with Origin Energy's plans for drilling and hydraulic fracturing in the Northern Territory. I strongly object to the approval of this EMP for the following reasons:

1. Approval of this EMP will lead to irreversible climate change impacts for people of the Northern Territory and beyond. The Northern Territory is already experiencing the impacts of climate change, and is predicted to be one of the most severely impacted if emissions are not rapidly reduced [1]. Remote Aboriginal communities across the NT feel this first and worst: extreme heat waves, water shortages and more extreme flooding could force many Aboriginal people to move off their country. Approving this EMP, one of nine exploration wells, would signal the Beetaloo Basin as "open for business" to the expansion of the gas industry, potentially leading to emissions 20 times Australia's total current annual emissions [2]. This would pose a serious climate change threat to communities across the NT and beyond.
2. Storage of wastewater in open air tanks poses unacceptable risks and is incompatible with the Scientific Inquiry into Hydraulic Fracturing in the Northern Territory (Inquiry) recommendation 7.12 that stated "enclosed tanks must be used to hold all wastewater." [3] Climate change means that seasons and weather patterns are changing, particularly across the NT in relation to wet season (Oct 2018 to April 2019 was the driest wet season since 1992 and the hottest wet season on record) [4]. This means that there can be big storms out of season, and having open tanks with fracking wastewater (at any time of the year) would put drinking water, wildlife and health of community members and children at risk, including communities up and downstream.
3. Origin Energy have failed to appropriately consult with all Traditional Owners, Aboriginal people and impacted communities. A report from the Jumbunna Institute for Indigenous Education and Research (UTS) found that most, if not all, exploration permits issued in the Northern Territory (including Origin Energy) for unconventional gas were issued in the absence of Free, Prior and Informed Consent from Traditional Owners [5]. Furthermore, the Inquiry found that Aboriginal communities overwhelmingly opposed fracking on their land. The findings from the UTS report suggest reasons for concerns regarding all of Origin Energy's consultation practices, including consultation regarding this Environmental Management Plan with all Traditional Owners, Aboriginal communities and appropriate cultural authorities for the areas impacted both directly and indirectly.

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[3] Final Report of the Scientific Inquiry into Hydraulic Fracturing in the Northern Territory 2018 <https://frackinginquiry.nt.gov.au/inquiry-reports?a=494286>

[4] Bureau of Meteorology "Seasonal Climate Summary for Northern Territory"
<http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/current/season/nt/summary.shtml>

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Yours sincerely,
Satara Uthayakumaran

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