

There has been longstanding concern that the Federal Government placing undue pressure on the Northern Territory around fracking.

On **2 October 2017**, NT Treasurer Nicole Manison spoke about Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull and Federal Energy Minister Josh Frydenberg and their campaign to push the NT to lift its moratorium on fracking. She said in an ABC interview: "I'm a bit sick of Canberra parliamentarians coming in and telling us what to do... Territorians want to have a say in the process of whether or not we frack.

"We have absolutely made it clear to Canberra that it would be outrageous for them to compromise our GST on the question of lifting the moratorium without doing the proper work," Ms Manison said.

Reference: <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-10-02/nt-canberra-back-off-fracking-fight-as-turnbull-turns-up-heat/9008644>

On **27 March 2018** the Fracking Inquiry handed down its Final Report, with 135 recommendations.

On 6 April 2018, then Federal Treasurer Scott Morrison spoke about the GST cut to the NT, linking it to the fracking moratorium:

I've already had discussions with the NT Treasurer about my concerns about that outcome and we will be holding further discussions ...

They have some significant decisions to make in relation to resources and gas in the Northern Territory, as well as other revenue issues, and we'll continue to have I think very positive and good faith discussions with the Northern Territory.

Reference: [https://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-04-05/northern-territory-gst-share-to-fall-by-\\$136m/9623028](https://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-04-05/northern-territory-gst-share-to-fall-by-$136m/9623028)

On **16 April 2018**, the NT government announced it would be overturning the moratorium on fracking, adopting all 135 recommendations from the Inquiry.

On **19 April 2018**, Scott Morrison signed a letter to Treasurer Nicole Manison offering the GST funding and acknowledging the fracking decision. The letter states: "*I also note the Northern Territory has announced it will accept the recommendations of the Final Report on the Scientific Inquiry into Hydraulic Fracking in the Northern Territory.*"

Reference: Letter attached with significant redactions.

On **23 April 2018**, the Commonwealth government publicly announced a more than \$250 million 'GST top-up' payment, and \$550 million for five years of remote Indigenous housing.

Reference: <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-04-23/nt-government-commonwealth-funding-remote-housing-gst/9687170>