

10-page sample of members' statements from GetUp (from an original document of 920 pages)

██████	██	NSW	2018	<p>Dear Committee Secretary",</p> <p>My name is. I live and work in ██████, where I came to first in 1968 for a few months but then after 7 years working with the Tiwi people at Wurrumiyanga, then called Nguiu I came to ██████ to live in 1978. I am writing to lodge a submission into the Industry Research and Development (Beetaloo Cooperative Drilling Program) Instrument 2021.</p> <p>I am very concerned about fracking as these fracking corporations have not sought informed consent from Traditional owners. Please think of this beautiful land Australia and do not let it be destroyed along with the culture of our indigenous brothers and sisters in the NT. And especially at this time in the Beetaloo region.</p> <p>I wish to support the people there who say 'No fracking'.</p> <p>Yours sincerely</p>
██████	██	NT	0810	<p>Dear Committee Secretary,</p> <p>My name is, I live in ██████ and am a proud Territorian. I am writing for the purpose of lodging a submission into the Industry Research and Development (Beetaloo Cooperative Drilling Program) Instrument 2021.</p> <p>I hold grave concerns that proper and informed consent for this drilling program has not been obtained from Traditional owners and it will lead to land, water, and culture being contaminated across the NT. Our land and water are precious and should not be put at risk for short-term profits. The longer-term effects of doggedly continuing with a fossil fuels economy are also incredibly short-sighted and frankly dangerous.</p> <p>Offering 50m dollars for fracking corporations is tantamount to paying for environmental and cultural vandalism. I am concerned that the majority of Territorians find this incredibly offensive and a terrible misuse of public funds.</p> <p>I believe it would be environmentally catastrophic and go against the stated wishes of Traditional Owners who are anxious that sacred and culturally important sites are at risk of destruction.</p> <p>Yours sincerely,</p>
██████	██	NSW	2529	<p>When almost everybody else is pushing to lower emissions in the face of global warming, Australia is pushing for a "gas led recovery". Once we were a respected nation, but right now it is really hard to be proud to be Australian.</p>
██████	██	NSW	2482	<p>Dear Madam/Sir,</p> <p>I'm asking you to stop funding gas exploration at Beetaloo Basin using \$50 mio of tax payers money. You have not received permission from the traditional owners and this exploration has to stop.</p> <p>Yours sincerely,</p>



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[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	QLD	4152	<p>Dear Committee Secretary</p> <p>I would like to voice my concerns about the federal government supporting private enterprise to the tune of \$50M to explore for reserves of gas to be accessed by frackig with the bill under review ie the Industry Research and Development (Beetaloo Cooperative Drilling Program) Instrument 2021.</p> <p>This bill once again sidelines the views and interests of the Traditional Owners of the Bundjalung Nation. Whether it is mining or use of land for military training and preparedness for fighting yet another US led war the prevailing attitude of this government is one of disregard disrespect and dismissal of Australia's First nations people's views.</p> <p>I believe there is an urgent need for this to be addressed if we are ever to be a nation of many people's who work together for the betterment of future generations.</p> <p>Yours Sincerely</p>
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	VIC	3196	<p>Dear Committee Secretary,</p> <p>I am [REDACTED] from Victoria and really concerned about franking in Traditional Owners lands. These destructive projects have not sought proper and informed consent from Traditional owners and would contaminate land, water and culture across the NT.</p> <p>There were no process of informed consent for the Beetaloo exploration to occur; no scientific explanation for the work; no translators provided to their community groups; and no information about the long-term impact and risks to water tables, their livelihood and the land on which they live. They're concerned that even the mining corporations involved (like Empire, Santos, and Origin) have not been able to tell them where the exploration wells will be, how they will impact the underground water, what the final production level mine would look like, or how many wells are being proposed. These Owners have been flatly ignored by the Government in their opposition to drilling on their lands.</p> <p>It would be environmentally catastrophic and go against the stated wishes of Traditional Owners who are anxious that sacred and culturally important sites are at risk of destruction. Also many remote Aboriginal communities in the Northern Territory have water contamination levels above national guidelines. The Gunner Government's promised industry regulations to mitigate any risk to water have still not been implemented. Which means these fracking corporations could contaminate more sacred water without consequence.</p> <p>Australia does not have unlimited sources of drinking water and that needs to be preserved and looked after. We can do without gas but not without water. Nothing can.</p> <p>Thank you for your time.</p>

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[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	NT	0870	<p>Dear Committee Secretary</p> <p>I wish to lodge a submission into the Industry Research and Development (Beetaloo Cooperative Drilling Program) Instrument 2021.</p> <p>I am a long term business owner and resident of the NT. I am an Australian citizen and I take my civic duties very seriously. I am proud to live in the NT, to be part of a richly diverse community of Aboriginal nations, people whose families have been in Australia for many generations and the more recent migrants.</p> <p>The environment in the NT is special, the land is sacred. There are many areas of habitat at risk from current and past poor mining practices, and through non-compliance with contractual agreements and legislation.</p> <p>Given this poor practice in the past and continuing now, I am very concerned about the risk of contaminated land, water and the negative impact on culture from fracking. Our future across NT is at risk. I am well informed about the impact of fracking in countries across the world. The risks are too great in comparison with other energy sources including solar with batteries and wind turbines. The Aboriginal people of the NT who will be most immediately impacted by fracking do not consent to this. Many other NT residents like myself do not consent to this.</p> <p>We don't need fracking. We don't want fracking. The risk/benefit does not stack up for the people who live here. It clearly doesn't stack up for the companies without a massive government subsidy.</p> <p>We consider the \$50 million can be better spent invested in solar projects and water sustainability projects in remote NT. Elders have regularly put forward practical project proposals, such as solar farms and battery arrays along the Ghan route and Stuart Highway - reducing the power and communications gaps in the NT.</p> <p>Thankyou for considering my submission.</p> <p>I look forward to your response and to a positive outcome to this inquiry.</p>
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	VIC	3145	I do sincerely request that the needs of the local people, Traditional Owners be given priority here.

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 		VIC	3146	<p>Dear Committee Secretary,</p> <p>I am writing to oppose the Beetaloo Cooperative Drilling Program. I am retired, a long-term Origin shareholder, a resident of Melbourne and very concerned about the unjustified; on economic, environmental and cultural grounds taxpayer subsidisation of energy production. I understand that the proposed initial taxpayer subsidy is \$50 million.</p> <p>Gas is increasingly uncompetitive with renewable energy (solar and wind power) and this gap is likely to widen as the efficiency of the latter continues to improves.</p> <p>Gas production is also environmentally unsound in terms of adverse climate change impacts; on par with thermal coal as a result of methane emissions arising from production and distribution.</p> <p>Fracking has contaminated land and water resources in locations around the world; in addition to scarring the countryside as a result of land clearing.</p> <p>Specifically remote communities in the Beetaloo Basin rely on clean water; this would be endangered by fracking and is at odds with the Gunner Government's promised industry regulations to mitigate any risk to water quality.</p> <p>I also understand that the proposed fracking goes against the stated wishes of Traditional Owners who are anxious that sacred and culturally important sites are at risk of destruction.</p> <p>To reiterate a waste of taxpayer money and the development of the Beetaloo Basin also has major, deleterious environmental and cultural impacts.</p> <p>Yours sincerely,</p>
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[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	NSW	2576	<p>I would like to thank you for the opportunity to make a submission opposing fracking in the Beetaloo Basin in the Northern Territory and the plan by our government to give \$50,000,000 to oil and gas companies.</p> <p>In 2021 we need to be thinking about the effect our actions have on the environment and the liveability of our country for generations of Australians to come. Now is the time for us as a nation to be thinking about renewable energy. Gas has become so expensive that it is a huge strain on the budgets of many Australians and sadly fracking is unlikely to improve this situation, despite the lip service paid to the notion.</p> <p>The greenhouse gas emissions would be huge, nearly a quarter of Australia's emissions. Plus the question of 'waste water' needs to be addressed. Wastewater from fracking wells can put communities and ground water at risk of contamination. On the driest inhabited continent we need to be extremely thoughtful about our use of water and contamination of water via mining should never be condoned.</p> <p>Aboriginal communities have been fiercely opposing fracking on their land for years, it is time we listened to their concerns. These are the people who will be directly affected by this proposal and to ignore their concerns is not the Australian way.</p> <p>Opening up new oil and gas basins would be a disaster for our climate and threaten precious water supplies, and as people die in Canada and the USA due to unheard of heatwaves, we need to think about what we can do to lower our carbon footprint and do what we can to transition from polluting fossil fuels to cleaner greener renewable energy.</p> <p>At this time with huge deficits and Australian businesses and workers in deep financial strain, I do not think it is the time to support public money being given to fracking companies in the NT. We need to put this \$50,000,000 to better use like funding for healthcare or renewable energy.</p>
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[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	QLD	4552	<p>Dear Senators,</p> <p>Firstly thank you for the opportunity to make a submission to your crucial enquiry. It's wonderful to see a Senate that works so hard.</p> <p>I hope you have all had time to look at the science behind fracking. It isn't pretty, hundreds of persistently toxic chemicals, massive amounts of fresh water and for what? More air pollution, through both fugitive and combustion emissions (including high levels of methane!) and a very expensive form of energy.</p> <p>Next there is the issue of consent of the Traditional Owners of the land. Time and again in this country Native Title fails to protect the rights of our First Nations to maintain their stewardship of our fragile continent. Again we see this playing out in the NT with the push to frack large amounts of their lands. Just because it's "up north" doesn't mean it won't have an influence more broadly, socially, economically and culturally.</p> <p>Lastly I wish to address the biggest problem with these plans to frack. It's economics. Globally there is a major shift underway. Technology is rapidly changing the status quo and our government seems resolute in chaining us to a bygone era of high energy/high cost economics. Their "Gas led Recovery" is steaming ahead absorbing into it vast amounts of public funds. We all know what happens when investments are made in unproductive sectors. It doesn't end well. The fossil fuel sector is struggling to compete with the increase in cheaper renewable alternatives. This problem will not go away for them, it's a train wreck coming and they want the government to bail them out.</p> <p>Instead of funding unbankable gas pipelines, dangerous fracking schemes and soon-to-be-stranded carbon mining and power generation we need a plan to fund education and innovation, we need to ensure capital goes where the most return can be found, both for the sources of capital and for the future of our country and we need to move ourselves up the economic ladder. We need a real plan for recovery! Let's not forget these fossil fuel companies absorb vast amounts of public subsidies and nearly all pay \$0 tax.</p> <p>So the Beetaloo is just another unbankable scheme that is trying to get a free lunch. Let's put the \$50m into assisting Neoen's Kaban Green Energy Hub instead.</p> <p>Yours sincerely, [REDACTED]</p>
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██████	██	QLD	4125	<p>The Traditional owners have made their position quite clear - they do not want fracking on their land. I stand with them and agree with their position. I too am against fracking in this, or any area. Our world is being plundered by a minority for greed, in the guise of the good of the communities. We are changing our planet in detrimental ways that will one day be too late to repair. Stop the fracking now.</p>
██████	██	QLD	4570	<p>I would like to lodge an objection against the proposed fracking in the Beetaloo Basin in the NT . I believe strongly that fracking should not be allowed in an area that belongs to the traditional owners who are opposing this fracking . It is disgraceful that this current Govt allows such destruction of our native lands and only listens to a multinational company and no longer demonstrate any consideration to the owners of land . Thanking you for your consideration</p>
██	██	VIC	3032	<p>Fracking destroys animal habitats and environments for trees, plants & other amenities that benefit animals, plants & humans. Fracking takes away environments which can never be restored due to degradation. It's time to put the interests of flora, fauna & people ahead of short-term, degrading fracking operations!</p>
██████	██	QLD	4552	<p>Dear ministers, Water is the most precious commodity in our country and should not be contaminated by coal mining or fracking. Renewable and clean energy is easily achieved and will provide jobs in doing so. Please, Please do not contaminate our water by using fossil fuels. Please listen to your constituents! Sincerely and desperately,</p>
██████	██	QLD	4556	<p>It is unthinkable and immoral that in this time of out of control climate change, we would be procuring new sources of CO2 emitting fuel. This further decreases the survival chances of our future generations and the current eco system. If the Government had vision and announced a race to renewables and zero carbon, accompanied by a massive amount of new green jobs. It would have a much better chance at the next election. At present, the Liberal government makes me ashamed to be Australian</p>
██████	██	SA	5112	<p>Cannot believe the government in 2021 is still trying to pass destructive and environmentally damaging fracking. Fracking should never take place on this beautiful country now or in the future.</p>
██	██	VIC	3065	<p>Do we want to ruin this country so that it will be useless for future generations? Fire coming out of taps... water tables ruined..no we don't. Old people are making decisions for your people and their children that cannot be turned back. Shameful to measure short term money gains against the future of Australian people. Disgraceful, shameful. This must not go ahead.</p>



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[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	NSW	2160	<p>Dear Committee Secretary,</p> <p>I am a proud palawa luna, a palawa woman with connections to country in southeast lutruwita/Tasmania.</p> <p>I am extremely concerned about fracking in general, and the damage it does to country, but the proposed fracking in Beetaloo Basin is appalling. I have detailed my concerns below:</p> <p>Lack of consent Traditional Owners have given evidence on behalf of themselves and others in their community on the question of consent, explaining how there has been: no process of informed consent for the Beetaloo exploration to occur; no scientific explanation for the work; no translators provided to their community groups; and no information about the long-term impact and risks to water tables, their livelihood and the land on which they live. They're concerned that even the mining corporations involved (like Empire, Santos, and Origin) have not been able to tell them where the exploration wells will be, how they will impact the underground water, what the final production level mine would look like, or how many wells are being proposed. These Owners have been flatly ignored by the Government in their opposition to drilling on their lands.</p> <p>Vested interests The corporations vying for a piece of the \$50m include Origin, Santos, and Empire. Two of these companies pay zero tax, while the other is led by a multi millionaire who is a major donor to the Liberal Party. The size of Aboriginal land that Empire Energy is planning to frack is almost twice the size of lutruwita/Tasmania. It would be environmentally catastrophic and go against the stated wishes of Traditional Owners who are anxious that sacred and culturally important sites are at risk of destruction.</p> <p>Water contamination Many remote Aboriginal communities in the Northern Territory have water contamination levels above national guidelines. The Gunner Government's promised industry regulations to mitigate any risk to water have still not been implemented. Which means these fracking corporations could contaminate more sacred water without consequence.</p> <p>I implore you to consider not only the environmental impacts of this abhorrent practice, but also the very real impacts for Traditional Owners and other Aboriginal peoples. Connection to country is paramount, and must be protected.</p> <p>Thank you for your time,</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>
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		VIC	3126	<p>Dear Committee Secretary,</p> <p>I am pleased to be able to make this submission into the Australian Parliamentary Inquiry into the possible opening up of new gas fields in the Northern Territory's Beetaloo Basin.</p> <p>My name is (withheld). I am a medical practitioner. I write as a doctor, concerned for the future of all children; as an Australian citizen, concerned that we do no further wrongs to the First Australians; and as a scientist, concerned at the huge increase in greenhouse gases which gas from the Beetaloo Basin will cause.</p> <p>I will be brief in outlining the several reasons why this project should not go ahead:</p> <p>Climate Catastrophe. Extracting gas from the Beetaloo Basin is the last thing we should be doing as we respond to the challenge of impending climate catastrophe. The IEA has said clearly there should be no now mining for gas in a world which hopes to achieve net zero emissions by 2050.</p> <p>Gas is not a transitional fuel. There is now clear evidence that fugitive emissions of methane during gas mining and transport make it at least as damaging to the climate as coal and oil.</p> <p>We don't need more gas. Renewable energy becomes more available and cheaper by the day. Australians simply don't need access to more gas.</p> <p>Water extraction. Up to 34 million litres will be required to carry out the proposed fracking, with loss of this precious resource for farmers and traditional owners, as well as the risk of irremediable groundwater pollution.</p> <p>Government subsidies. Proposals include subsidies for roads to and in the area; subsidies for high-risk wellheads; tax breaks for exploration. It is unacceptable to put tens of millions of dollars into these unnecessary, high-risk projects, when there are so many more important needs.</p> <p>Traditional owners. The traditional owners of the land affected have not consented to this process. They fear that their land will be desecrated and their water polluted. They have not been consulted.</p> <p>The companies involved. You don't need me to explain. Origin and Santos: multinationals which continue to minimise their tax and royalties obligations in Australia. Empire: headed by Paul Espie, Liberal Party doyen. Tamboran, whose IPO has already shrunk from \$195M to just \$60M, reflecting the increasingly higher risk of investment in the Beetaloo Basin.</p> <p>The Australian government should block any development of the Beetaloo basin for gas extraction. At the very least, there should be no government support for the process.</p>
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		NSW	2131	<p>Dear Committee Members,</p> <p>I am currently living on Gadigal land in Sydney, but have also lived in the Northern Territory and have spent time in indigenous communities. I am writing to lodge a submission into the Industry Research and Development (Beetaloo Cooperative Drilling Program) Instrument 2021.</p> <p>Australia has been built on the destruction of Aboriginal lands and communities. It is long past time we stopped. Traditional Owners across the Northern Territory have consistently said no to fracking on their lands. They understand the risks of fracking to their lands, waters and communities and do not want it on their Country. They are also opposed to the tactics of the mining companies who have failed to consult with them; failed to acquire consent; failed to be transparent in their dealings with Traditional Owners and communities; failed to provide information to communities about the long-term impact and risks to water tables, their livelihood and the land on which they live; and failed to respect them. The government has also completely ignored the Traditional Owners and communities regarding their opposition to drilling on their Country.</p> <p>In addition, we don't need the gas, which is a dangerous fossil fuel and will only contribute to further catastrophic climate change. Even the International Energy Agency, generally seen as conservative on climate change, recently announced that the world cannot afford any more fossil fuel projects from this year. There are renewable and cheaper energy alternatives to gas.</p> <p>I fail to understand why, if gas is viable commercially as the federal government claims, it needs to subsidise the potential fracking companies with \$50 million of public money. As it is, two of these companies pay zero tax and the other is owned by a multi-millionaire donor to the Liberal Party. This is an outrageous misuse of public funds which can be much better spent on improving the living and health conditions in indigenous communities, and across the wider community. It also further exacerbates the disrespect shown by the government to the Traditional Owners and communities, who have consistently opposed fracking on their lands.</p> <p>I strongly urge you to take the above issues into consideration in your deliberations and to reject the proposed legislation. Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission.</p> <p>Yours sincerely,</p>
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