



The State Government has stopped the use of hydraulic fracture stimulation (fracking) for onshore petroleum exploration or development in Western Australia

The State Government:

- Has implemented a ban on fracking for existing and future petroleum titles in the South West, Peel and Perth metropolitan regions.
- Has introduced a moratorium on the use of fracking throughout the rest of Western Australia.
- Has established a committee to conduct a scientific inquiry into fracking comprising a panel of four experts, chaired by the Environmental Protection Authority chairman Tom Hatton.
- Will use credible scientific and historical evidence to assess each level of risk associated with fracking and outline regulatory mechanisms to identify and minimise potential risks to the environment, health, agriculture, heritage and community in Western Australia.
- Recognises that impacts of fracking may vary in different locations and will use the inquiry findings to determine whether the moratorium may be lifted in locations or circumstances where potential risks can be mitigated to an acceptable level.

A number of tight gasfields have been discovered in the Canning and Perth Basins. Tight gas resources have not yet been estimated for the State as a whole because tight gas locations cannot be as easily defined as prospective shale gas formations.

Regulation of the Industry

Western Australia has a comprehensive legislative framework that regulates oil and gas exploration and production in a manner that provides protection to the environment, community and workers.

The Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (DMIRS) will continue to regulate the Western Australian petroleum sector to ensure the highest levels of safety, health and environmental standards are achieved in accordance with State and Australian Government legislation, regulations and policies.

WA Onshore Petroleum Resources

Western Australia's Canning and Perth Basins have been identified as being potentially prospective for shale and tight gas. The Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (DMIRS) has estimated that Western Australia holds shale gas resources of approximately 34,000 billion cubic metres (Gm³), or 1200 trillion cubic feet (Tcf).

For more information please visit
www.dmirs.wa.gov.au