EDO

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WA needs stronger laws to counter fracking risks

Renee Asher, Paralegal

Coal seam gas hydraulic fracturing (also known as "fracking") has lately come under the spot light in Australia. It has resulted in numerous protests in NSW and Queensland by farmers, environmentalists and the general public who are concerned about land access issues and about the effect fracking has on the land and underground water resources.

Exploration is now being undertaken by a company in WA to determine whether coal seam gas operations would be economically viable in several locations in our State, including in the South West. NSW is currently conducting a review of their coal and gas legislation and policy and perhaps it would be timely for WA to do the same.

Fracking is a technique whereby coal seam gas and shale gas is obtained from underground deposits through drilling and fracture stimulation. Fracture stimulation involves injecting water at high pressure into wells drilled into coal and shale reservoirs in order to create fractures in the rock which allows trapped gas to be released.

Fracking water contains about 9.5% sand (or ceramic beads) and also a variety of chemicals. The sand is used as a "propping agent", that is it is pushed into the fractures by the high pressure water blast and operates to keeps the fractures open after the water has run out. This then allows the gas to flow out of the fractures into the well and to then be captured above ground. The chemicals are generally used to assist the propping agent and to protect the drilling equipment.

This process raises a number of serious environmental concerns. These include:

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Dr Anne Poelina.

Coal mining threat to the Fitzroy River

Ed Fearis, EDO Volunteer and *Josie Walker, Principal Solicitor*

The sight of the mighty Fitzroy River in full flood is one of Australia's great sights. Thirty thousand cubic metres of water per second surge over the bridge at Fitzroy Crossing, carving through the Geikie Gorge National Park on its 750km journey before ultimately gushing into the sea at King Sound, south of Derby.

Yet this environmental wonder is under threat. A mining lease application has been lodged by Rey Resources, who seek to transform the Duchess Paradise site, located along the Fitzroy River roughly halfway between Fitzroy Crossing and Derby, into a coal mine. Moreover, as Rey Resources has 38 separate mining lease applications within the surrounding Canning Basin area, covering 8,000 sq km, it appears that the aim is to exploit the Mount Duchess Paradise site in the first instance in order to make it financially possible to expand mining operations throughout the Basin.

The Fitzroy River is central to the lifestyle and cultural beliefs of the local Nyikina people, who call themselves "yimardoowarra", or "belonging to the river". The EDO is acting for Nyikina woman, Dr Anne Poelina, who is fighting this mining lease application in the Mining Warden's Court.

Rey Resources made its mining lease application in December 2010, through a subsidiary company called Blackfin. Due to the application being lodged under a

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Fracking risks

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- Land access/ land contamination issues for Australia's rich food producing farmland.
- The high volume of water used by the process and the effect this has on ground and surface water levels.
- The disposal or treatment of the large volumes of contaminated water that the process produces.
- The risk of a fracture breaching and contaminating an aquifer.
- The risk of the fractures doing other damage to stygofauna (groundwater dependent fauna) and the hydrological system.
- "Fugitive" emissions of methane gas contributing to Australia's greenhouse gas emissions.

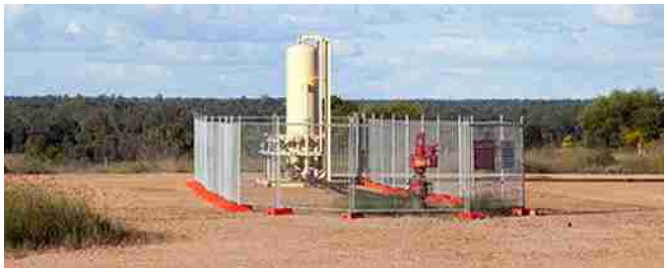
One of the main concerns with fracking is the potential for chemicals to seep into the earth, contaminate groundwater, especially if an aquifer is fractured, and also to remain in the large volumes of contaminated waste water that is injected and then drained from the well. The National Toxics Network have reviewed the most common fracking chemicals and say that only 2 out of the 23 chemicals have been assessed by the national industrial chemicals regulator, the National Industrial Chemical Notification and Assessment Scheme, and even those 2 assessed chemicals were not assessed in relation to their use in fracking. They call for a moratorium on fracking until the assessment process has occurred.

In the US where this technology was originally developed, intense public concern over water contamination has hit the headlines, especially after the alarming effects of the industry on the public and the environment was exposed in the documentary "Gaslands" by Josh Fox, which won the Special Jury Prize at the Sundance Film Festival last year.

In Queensland in 2009, a coal seam fracking operation connected a local aquifer to the coal seam gas well through a blasting mishap. This allowed migration of the chemicals used in the blasting into the aquifer. According to media reports, the company did not alert the authorities, and the mishap was only discovered by a local farmer who had been investigating the operation. The company claims that the water quality of the aquifer was not impacted.

There are some claims that coal seam gas is a good intermediary step in the transition between coal and renewable energy, as it emits less greenhouse gasses than coal. However, this claim is now being questioned in light of evidence that the methane gas released into the atmosphere through fugitive emissions might make it on par with coal. An audit of Queensland CGS well heads in 2010 found that out of 2719 sites inspected, 5 sites were leaking to the extent that they recognised a flammable risk, and a further 29 sites were leaking at below the point that they were considered flammable.

As a result of public concern about coal and coal seam gas mining and as part of an initiative to address concerns around land use conflicts, the NSW Government earlier this year released a scoping paper for a coal and gas strategy and invited submissions. The main aims of the strategy are stated to be to guide sustainable development,



A Queensland CSG production well. Photo: Jeremy BuckinghamMLC@flickr

minimise adverse health, environmental, agricultural and land use impacts, ensure efficient and effective regulation and strengthen communication between Government, industry and the community. The scoping paper has a heavy focus on the coal industry, but does raise issues associated with the current and future potential growth of the coal seam gas industry in NSW.

The scoping paper envisages that the coal seam gas industry in NSW will play a critical role in creating a low carbon economy and that the State will therefore see a substantial increase in coal seam gas production over the next 25 years. The scoping paper generally identifies some of the key issues related to coal seam gas production, particularly in relation to water management. It suggests that developing baseline data on water resources could be an option, as could be identifying "measures to ensure access to adequate water for surrounding land-uses" and "measures to avoid impacts to water that may be detrimental to surrounding land-uses". It also suggests that a triple bottom line cost benefit analysis could be conducted for some areas where coal seam gas mining is proposed.

Over 1000 submissions were received in response to the scoping paper. In their submission, EDO NSW submitted that the strategy should not just express an intention to minimise environmental, social, economic and health impacts, but should put in place clear plans to specifically address these issues. The EDO urged that a moratorium on Coal Seam Gas extraction and exploration should be imposed while a comprehensive strategy is developed based on community and independent scientific input.

A six-month moratorium on hydraulic fracturing was introduced in New South Wales in June and a Federal senate inquiry is also currently being conducted into the effects of coal seam gas mining on the Murray Darling Basin.

The protests against fracking and coal seam gas mining in the US, Queensland and NSW, as well as the current need for moratoriums and strategic plans in NSW should be seen as a wakeup call for WA. Exploration is currently being undertaken near Busselton, in the Perth Basin and near Collie to determine whether there are any potentially viable sites for coal seam gas production in our State. In February the Conservation Council of WA called for a moratorium on coal seam gas mining in WA, yet exploration continues.

With the experience of other States in front of them, the WA Government needs to act now to prevent this extremely risky industry before it begins rather than putting our States already scarce water supply in any form of danger for a short term economic gain. ■

Coal mining threat to the Fitzroy River

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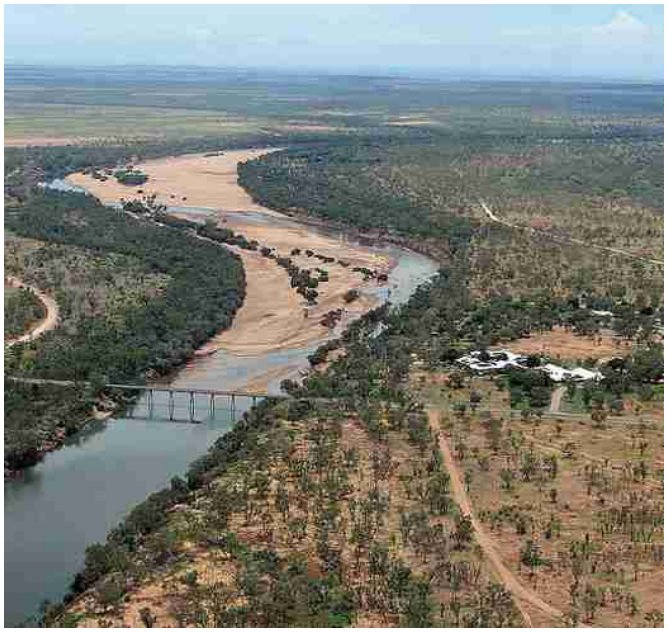


Fitzroy Crossing. Photo: Yaruman5@flickr

different name and during the wet season, local communities did not become aware of this application until after the expiry of the objection period. Dr Poelina is seeking leave from the Mining Warden to lodge an objection out of time.

On 11 November 2011 the Mining Warden's Court will decide whether to accept the late objection.

In the meantime, the Duchess Paradise mine proposal has been referred to the EPA for assessment in June 2011. The proponent has asked for the proposal to be publicly assessed at the level of a Public Environmental Review. If the EPA decides that the proposal should be publicly assessed, the Mining Warden will not be able to make a final decision on the mining lease until the Minister for Environment has made a decision on whether to grant environmental approval.

While the Pilbara region to the south is the heartland of Australia's mining, the Kimberley has been relatively untouched until now. Indeed, the controversy surrounding the gas hub at James Price Point has been well-documented, but one of the broader implications of this development is just gaining recognition. If the Gas Hub at James Price Point goes ahead, it will change the wilderness character of the Kimberley and pave the way for other damaging development such as coal mining.

Rey Resources proposes to use the "high wall trench" technique for its mine. This process commences with the removal of native vegetation. A deep trench is then dug and the coal is removed from the bottom of the trench, as well as by burrowing horizontally. However, the technique is highly vulnerable to surface subsidence, threatening seepage from the toxic rocks of the mine into adjoining creeks and billabongs. Also of environmental concern is that when coal is removed from the mine, washed and stockpiled, the iron sulphide contained in the coal and coal dust reacts with the air and water to produce sulphuric acid. This poses a risk to the surrounding land, vegetation, waterways and aquifers.

Of course, there are many other problems inherent to the nature of coal mining, which is widely recognised as one of the most environmentally harmful types of mining. Once one mine is established, other more damaging open-cut mines are likely to follow. This means that many of the acknowledged problems with coal mining are likely to eventuate, including acid mine drainage, harmful levels of methane, degradation of air quality and increased soil erosion.

Dr Peter Cooke, associate professor at UWA's Centre for Excellence in Natural Resource Management, was commissioned by Nyikina Mangala Aboriginal Corporation to compile an environmental report on the proposed Duchess Paradise mine. He estimated that the total carbon footprint of mining, transporting and burning 2Mtpa of coal (as is proposed by Rey Resources), would be 6,053,600 tonnes of CO_2 a year. This would mean that this single mine would add approximately 1% to Australia's direct, annual CO_2 emissions.

Dr Cooke also noted a DEC report in 2010 that recorded 58 "Declared or Threatened", seven "Other Specifically Protected Fauna" and 77 "Priority Fauna" species within the Kimberley region. Further, the Fitzroy River Basin is predicted to house many species as yet undocumented by Western science. According to Dr Cooke, any contamination of the river or river country could be expected severely impact on the survival of all of these species.

The economic benefits to the Kimberley of the Mount Duchess Paradise mine have also been questioned. Technological advancements have made coal mining more efficient, and reduced the need for unskilled or lower-skilled labour. Hence, although coal mining does create jobs, most of these are for highly trained workers who cannot be sourced from local populations. Indeed, Dr Cooke has estimated that the mine is unlikely to produce more than about 45 permanent, full-time jobs, most of which will likely be filled by skilled personnel imported from outside the region.

Moreover, the Mount Duchess Paradise mine is likely to severely hinder, if not completely sabotage, efforts to establish more environmentally sustainable industries, which will actually benefit the local communities. Opportunities for solar and wind power, sustainable agriculture and eco-tourism are apparent, yet if Rey Resources is granted its mining lease, these are likely to disappear in a puff of dirty, black smoke.

EDOWA Annual General Meeting

The EDOWA AGM will be held in Perth on Friday 7 October 2011 at 6pm. All members are encouraged to attend and take part in the management of your organisation. It is also an opportunity to meet other EDO members, staff and volunteers.
RSVP to Renee at edowa@edowa.org.au by 30 September 2011.

The clean energy legislative package: how it works

Emily Campbell, EDO Volunteer

In July this year the Gillard Government released drafts of the key bills that will form the structure of its intended carbon price mechanism. In what has been a greatly publicised and controversial proposal, the Government intends to pass these bills through Parliament by the end of the year in order for the mechanism to take effect on 1 July 2012.

Thirteen bills have so far been released publicly in what is being called the 'Clean Energy Legislative Package'. The Package will put into effect the carbon-pricing scheme, meaning that liable entities will have to buy and surrender carbon units equal to their direct emissions of carbon dioxide equivalents. For the first three years the carbon price will be fixed, and after that the carbon units will be auctioned.

The legislative package will also link the pricing mechanism to the Government's Carbon Farming Initiative (CFI). That initiative is an attempt to cut carbon emissions in the agricultural sector by reducing emissions and encouraging carbon-storing activities such as growing forests. Under the initiative, participating entities will be allocated CFI credits that can be sold and possibly exported. International permits prescribed under the Kyoto rules may also be used to acquit up to 50% of a company's liability in Australia.

The basic content of the most significant bills in the package is set out below.

The *Clean Energy Bill 2011*

This Bill contains the main structure of the carbon pricing mechanism. It establishes a carbon price of $23 for the 2012/2013 financial year, increasing by 2.5% in each of the following two years. It also sets out that carbon units will be auctioned from July 2015 and that for the first three years after that point there will be a floor and ceiling on carbon unit prices.

The Clean Energy Bill provides rules for who the price applies to and what sources of carbon pollution are included. Entities that emit carbon dioxide equivalent of more than 25,000 tonnes per year and also certain waste facilities that exceed 10,000 tonnes per year will be liable to pay the price, although agriculture and transport fuels are excluded. There will also be assistance for emissions-intensive, trade-exposed activities and coal-fired electricity generators.

This Bill also provides that there will be a cap on the total amount of carbon pollution from 1 July 2015. That cap will be set in May 2014 and will apply for five years. It links to the Carbon Farming Initiative by making carbon credits eligible for surrender, and contains provisions for monitoring, enforcement, appeal and review.

The *Clean Energy Regulator Bill 2011*

The Clean Energy Regulator is established under this Bill as the statutory authority that will administer and enforce the carbon pricing mechanism. It will be the body to sell carbon units to liable entities, which will then be automatically surrendered on purchase by bookkeeping entries. The Regulator's responsibilities include assessing emissions data to determine each entity's liability, administering the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting System, and enforcing compliance with the mechanism by working with law enforcement and regulatory bodies including ASIC, the ACCC, AUSTRAC, the Federal Police and the Director of Public Prosecutions.

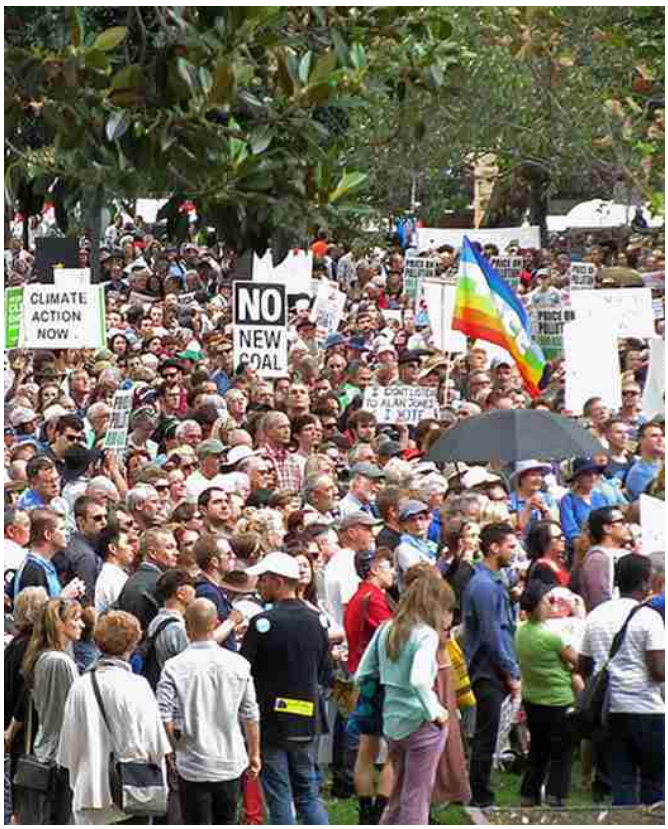
The *Climate Change Authority Bill 2011*

This Bill sets up the Climate Change Authority as the independent body that will provide advice to Government on the major aspects of the climate change mitigation initiatives. The Authority will report to Government by February 2014 on the suitable level of emission reduction targets. The current Australian Government targets are a 5% reduction in emissions from 2000 levels by 2020 and an 80% reduction in emissions from 2000 levels by 2050.

Legislation to deliver household assistance

It was announced in July 2011 that legislation would be implemented to assist households. This legislation will amend other laws to increase pensions and allowances, however the drafts of these bills have not been made available to the public. It is proposed that the lowest income households will receive the most assistance.

Although these bills have a long way to come before they represent the law in Australia, the fact that climate change is being addressed at the highest political level here and overseas is certainly a step in the right direction. At the very least, the huge publicity and controversy that this proposal has generated will go some way toward instilling in the minds of the public the urgency and importance with which the issue of climate change must be addressed. ■



April's climate change rally in Sydney. Photo: Newtown grafitti@flickr

National heritage decision for West Kimberley announced

Emily Campbell, EDO Volunteer

On August 31 federal environment minister Tony Burke announced his decision to place 19.2 million hectares of the West Kimberley region on the National Heritage List.

Apart from the intertidal zone along the coast, the area that will now be provided heritage protection does not include the site at James Price Point, where it is proposed an LNG hub will be developed to service companies operating in the Browse Basin.

The major players behind the development of the precinct are Woodside in a joint venture with BHP Billiton, Royal Dutch Shell, BP, and Chevron. The development proposes to pipe liquefied natural gas from wells in the Browse Basin to James Price Point for processing.

The heritage decision is one of two to be made by the Minister that will ultimately determine the future of the area. The other, perhaps more significant, decision is whether to grant a strategic approval of the state government's plan for the LNG hub under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth) (the EPBC Act), which will determine whether the project can go ahead under Commonwealth environmental law. State environmental approval is also required.

The decision to place areas of the West Kimberley on the heritage list will affect the approval of some proposed and future developments in the region. The EPBC Act requires a person, company or government agency to gain approval from the federal Minister for Environment before taking an action that has or is likely to have a significant impact on the national heritage values of a National Heritage place.

For this reason it is the “values” that are set down by the heritage listing that are of the most importance. Some values may be particularly susceptible to disturbance, like places of indigenous significance, while other values like geological sites may only be significantly impacted by serious ground and construction works. Therefore a national heritage listing should not be thought of as a blanket prohibition, or as requiring approval for all types of development within the listed area.

One value protected by the recent West Kimberley listing that may have an impact on the potential James Price Point development is the Dampier Coast dinosaur tracks. The tracks are said to be important because they provide a unique census of the Australian dinosaur community and because of the remarkable size of the Sauropod prints. Any development likely to impact those tracks would have to be assessed by the Minister, who may attach conditions to the approval of the strategic assessment to ensure their protection.

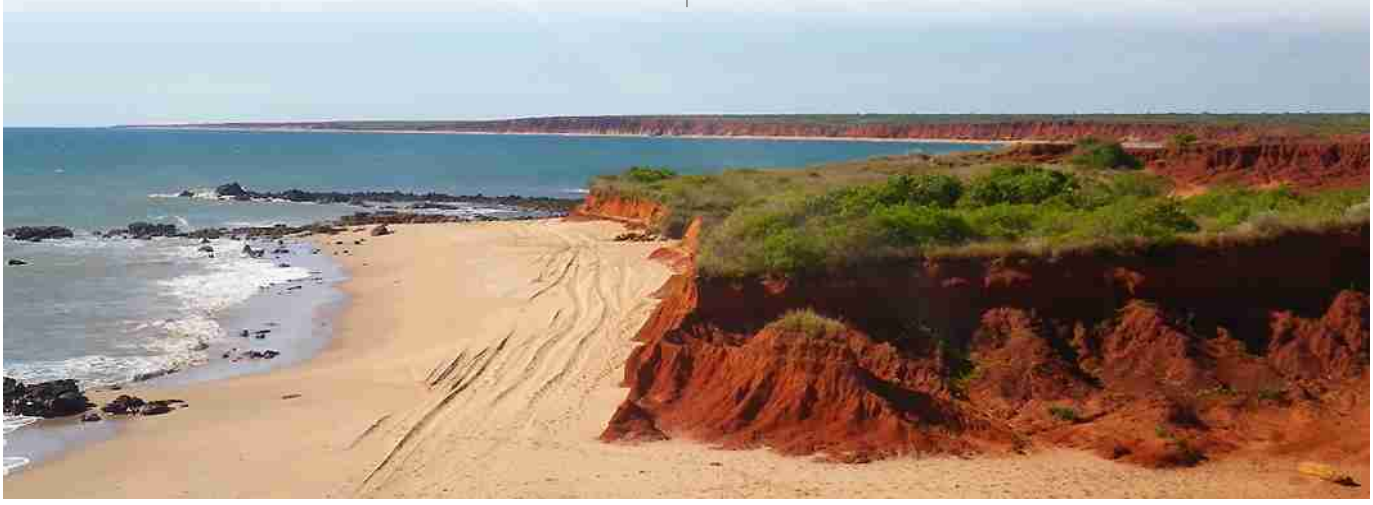
The other values set out in the listing include:

- the rocks of the King Leopold Orogen
- the Devonian Reef sequence preserved in the Oscar, Napier, Emmanuel and Pillara ranges
- the northern Kimberley coast, islands and Kimberley Plateau for their biodiversity
- the Drysdale, Prince Regent, Roe, Moran, Carson, Isdell, Mitchell and King Edward Rivers as areas of evolutionary refugia
- the Riwi rock shelters and 'Carpenter's Gap 1' as they demonstrate the operation of Aboriginal social and economic networks 30,000 years ago, and
- pearl shell beds at a number of identified sites from Bidyadanga to Cape Londonderry because of its connection with the Dreamtime.

Mr Burke also made it clear in a recent interview that while the strategic assessment will be primarily an environmental decision, he was of the opinion that any relevant heritage listing values could feed into that crucial decision.

The Minister's decision to omit James Price Point from the heritage listed area is in spite of the national heritage assessment of the Kimberley by the Australian Heritage Council, which recommended that values on the Dampier Coast be included. Unusually, the Council's assessment was also made public by Mr Burke's office prior to announcement of the heritage listing, which he said was to benefit those involved in the public consultation process. The majority of other values recommended by the Council were recognised by the Minister.

To read the West Kimberley National Heritage Listing in full, go to:
www.environment.gov.au/heritage/laws/publicdocuments/pubs/106063_05.pdf



James Price Point. Photo: Samuel Long

Costs win for Roe in Kimberley gas hub clearing case

Renee Asher, Paralegal

Despite being unsuccessful in his appeal to the WA Court of Appeal in the James Price Point clearing matter in March, Joseph Roe, who was represented by EDO WA, was successful in arguing that there should be no costs awarded against him.

In December 2010, the EDO commenced a matter in the Supreme Court on behalf of Mr Roe in an attempt to prevent preliminary clearing taking place in advance of the development of the Kimberley Gas Hub at James Price Point. At the hearing the EDO argued on behalf of Mr Roe that the issuing of clearing permits to Woodside and to the Department of Main Roads was unlawful because the Gas Hub proposal was a "significant" proposal under the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (WA), and therefore clearing permits could not lawfully be issued before the project had been given approval by the Minister for Environment, which is yet to happen.

However, the WA Court of Appeal held that the clearing permits were validly issued because they considered the proposal to be a "strategic proposal" rather than a "significant proposal", and therefore there was no restriction on clearing permits being issued before approval for the proposal had been given.

Despite this disappointing outcome, the EDO made submissions to the court that the applicant, Joseph Roe, should not be made to pay the costs of the respondents, Woodside and Main Roads WA, as is usually the situation when a party loses a case.

The court will generally use its discretion to refuse to award costs to the winning party only in very limited circumstances. In the past the court has done so on public interest grounds, and also where the case has decided novel legal issues. However, they only exercise this discretion rarely, and as far as we are aware, they have never previously done so in environmental law litigation in Western Australia.

The EDO argued that in bringing the case, Joseph Roe, as law boss, was representing the interests of all the indigenous people with a connection to the land at James Price Point, as well as a substantial section of the public who have shown great interest and concern in the proposed Gas Hub. The EDO also argued that Joseph Roe brought the case to court to protect the environment from harm where it appeared that the clearing was unlawful under the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (WA), and that by bringing the matter to the WA Court of Appeal, an important legal issue in the Act was clarified, for the benefit of the public in Western Australia. The WA Court of Appeal agreed with this reasoning and did not award costs.

Although the award of costs will be considered anew in each case, this decision will provide encouragement to future public interest environmental litigants in Western Australia. The Court's comments on the importance of the issues vindicates the hard work put in by the EDO, Joseph Roe, and all others involved in bringing this action to court. ■

Snakes on a plane

Simpson v Department of Environment and Conservation [2011] WASC 206

Kate Rodrigues, EDO Volunteer and *Renee Asher, Paralegal*

On 25 April 2009, Neil Andrew Simpson boarded a plane from Newman to Perth with an interesting choice of luggage. He had consigned for transport on the plane an Esky brazenly marked as containing "live reptiles, non-venomous", along with Mr Simpson's name and phone number. As might be expected, upon arrival in Perth, Wildlife Officers seized the Esky, which did indeed contain multiple species of native reptiles, including species of geckoes and pythons. A red bag containing items commonly used to trap animals was also seized.

Mr Simpson was convicted of unlawful possession of protected fauna contrary to s 16A(1) of the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950* (WA) in November 2010. He then sought leave to appeal the decision in the Supreme Court of Western Australia.

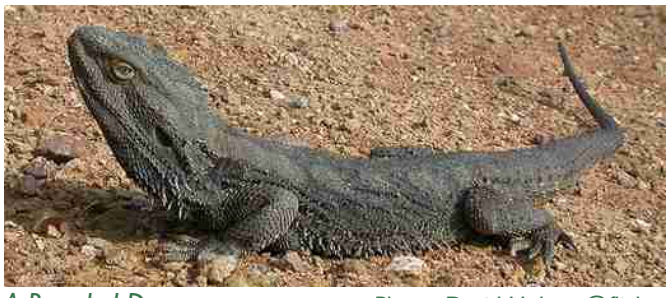
Mr Simpson sought leave to appeal on a number of quite optimistic grounds. In particular, he claimed that the zoologist did not have sufficient skill in identification of reptiles to be accepted by the court as an expert witness.

The reptiles were examined by wildlife officers and recorded on a property seizure notice before being transported to the DEC for re-examination. At some point during the following two weeks, the reptiles were taken to a zoologist employed be DEC, who also examined them and provided a report listing the number and species of the reptiles.

In his reasons the Magistrate said that he believed that the zoologist, although not a reptile specialist was qualified to say that the reptiles were of the 'general species' identified. Hall J agreed with the Magistrate that it was not even necessary to identify the precise species of each individual reptile, but to simply show that the reptiles were 'fauna' within the definition in the Act. It was also clear that Mr Simpson had not been granted a license to keep such fauna, establishing the "unlawful" element of the offence.

Hall J said that the court must not give leave to appeal on a ground unless it is satisfied that the ground has a real, rational and logical prospect of succeeding and none of the grounds raised by Mr Simpson were of a nature as to justify leave being granted. Leave to appeal was therefore refused.

It is relatively unusual to read a judgement on the operation of these types of prosecutions, as they proceed in the Magistrates Court and are not often appealed. ■



A Bearded Dragon. Photo: David Hobern@flickr

The EDO out and about in WA

Walk Away from Uranium Mining and Toro site visit

In August, EDO Outreach Solicitor Jessica Smith travelled to the north-east goldfields of Western Australia to join the start of the Walk Away from Uranium Mining protest walk and to visit the site of Toro Energy's (Toro) proposed uranium mine.

The Walk Away from Uranium Mining is organised by Footprints for Peace and supported by a number of other conservation groups. The participants are walking approximately 1000 kilometres, from Wiluna, where Toro proposes to mine uranium, all the way to Perth, to demonstrate their opposition to uranium mining in WA and nuclear power.

Jessica spent two nights camping in the remote spot with a large group of interested members of the community, including Senator Scott Ludlam and members of various conservation groups, all of whom are concerned about uranium mining near the Wiluna site.

Toro has referred its Wiluna uranium mine proposal to the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) and recently released its Environmental Review and Management Program (ERMP) document to the public. The EDO encourages anyone concerned about Toro's Wiluna uranium mine proposal to access the ERMP document and make a written submission to the EPA. The public comment period closes on 31 October 2011. The ERMP can be downloaded from www.toroenergy.com.au/ermp

Walk Away from Uranium Mining participants at Wiluna.
Photo: Senator Scott Ludlam

Kununurra environmental law seminar

EDO Outreach Solicitor Jessica Smith travelled to Kununurra in June to provide a public seminar on environmental law. Jessica covered topics such as sources of environmental law in Western Australia, environmental offences under the Environmental Protection Act 1986 (WA), environmental impact assessment under State and Federal laws, and common environmental licences, approvals and permits.

The seminar was held as part of Know Your Rights - a week-long seminar series in Kununurra held by various WA community legal centres, aimed at providing legal information to members of the community and training to local lawyers, who have relatively few opportunities to undertake continuing professional development.

The EDO would like to thank Legal Aid Kununurra for the use of its premises and Kimberley Community Legal Services and Youth Legal Service for organising the Know Your Rights seminar series.

The EDO holds environmental law workshops in rural, regional and remote locations several times each year. If you are interested in having an EDO workshop in your area on a matter of public interest environmental law, please contact us on (08) 9221 3030 or edowa@edowa.org.au

Albany environmental law seminar and advice clinic

The EDO will give a free community environmental law seminar in Albany as part of the Great Greenie Gobfest from 11-13 October. We will be focusing on laws relevant to local residents, particularly the regulation of ports, major projects, dredging, and sea dumping.

Where:	Camp Quaranup, Albany
When:	Wednesday 12 October 4pm - 5pm
Cost:	Free (however, there is a $8 day entry fee to Camp Quaranup)

The Great Greenie Gobfest is a family-friendly, affordable community event organised by the Conservation Council of WA and held at the historic Camp Quaranup. You can come and join in for an hour, a day or for all three days of marine science activities and presentations on topical subjects.

For information or to register, please contact Alaya at CCWA: Alaya@ccwa.org.au or phone (08) 9420 7266. General registrations for the Gobfest close on 22 September 2011. However, if you jusy want to attend the EDO workshop you have until 7 October to register.

The Gobfest is also an opportunity for face-to-face advice with an EDO solicitor in Albany. To make an appointment on Thursday 13 October, contact Renee at the EDO on 9221 3030 or at edowa@edowa.org.au

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