

Dear Newfoundland and Labrador Hydraulic Fracturing Review Panel,

Please accept my submission to your panel. I will be focusing on the Financial and Socio-Economic impacts of Hydraulic Fracturing in my submission.

I am an electrician. As such I rely on economic growth to make my living. I currently work at a new iron ore project in Western Labrador. The project is environmentally destructive and is a dirty, dangerous place to work. It keeps many people away from their families for weeks at a time, leading to divorces and other hardships. But it's a living. And we all need to pay the bills one way or the other. So we do what we have to.

I am writing to you today to tell you about a dream I have. It's a dream of a world where we can all work and support our families but do so without paying such a heavy price to the planet and to each other.

Two reports from the Climate Policy Initiative (links below) have suggested there could be up to 1.8 Trillion dollars in savings from switching away from fossil fuels to renewable energy. These savings come from both avoiding the massive costs of climate change and from reaping the benefits of investments in green technology. I imagine a future where my fellow trades people are able to stay home, each employed locally in a global effort to switch over from one system to the next. I imagine solar panels on every roof and electric cars in every driveway. I imagine wind farms and micro hydro projects creating enough green energy to power our society and economy.

Hydraulic Fracturing is the opposite of all this. It is a one-time gain with large risks to our environment. As the world becomes a more crowded place the pristine landscapes of Newfoundland and Labrador will become an ever more rare and priceless commodity. To risk all that for a one-time, short-term pay off would be insanity.

Please stand on the right side of history and ban Hydraulic Fracturing in Newfoundland and Labrador. There are other, much cleaner ways, for us to grow our economy and provide for our children.

Thank-you for your time and for your consideration,

A. Cormier

Link 1:

<http://climatepolicyinitiative.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/Moving-to-a-Low-Carbon-Economy-The-Financial-Impact-of-the-Low-Carbon-Transition.pdf>

Link 2:

<http://climatepolicyinitiative.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/Moving-to-a-Low-Carbon-Economy-The-Impacts-of-Policy-Pathways-on-Fossil-Fuel-Asset-Values.pdf>