



## **Media Release**

### **Fracking Petition Deadline Extended Following Delay in Fracking Regulations Release**

March 10, 2015

The deadline has been extended to May 27 for signing the petition calling for a moratorium on fracking until a regional study with public consultations is completed.

The extension of the petition closing date follows the Government of the Northwest Territories' (GNWT) delay in releasing draft fracking regulations. Release of the regulations for public comment has been repeatedly delayed, but is expected within the coming month.

The petition urges the Government of the Northwest Territories to put a moratorium on fracking until “a comprehensive, transparent and public review of environmental, social and economic risks and benefits...is completed” and “the NWT public clearly indicates whether the risks and benefits are acceptable or not. “ It also calls upon the GNWT to “shift economic development away from the exploitation of fossil fuels and towards economic diversification based on renewable energy and conservation.”

Lois Little, Co-Chair of the Council of Canadians NWT Chapter, a member organization of Fracking Action North, says that with fracking issues mounting, the moratorium and regional study are more important than ever.

“The deadline has been extended to allow more citizens to express their concern,” Little says. “We have the opportunity now to gather the facts and hear the concerns before decisions that could see fracking barrel ahead across the region. A regional study would provide certainty for citizens and industry. ”

The petition will be presented to the Legislative Assembly at its session beginning May 27. Further background information is contained in the attached media released issued to announce creation of the petition. The e-petition is found on the [Legislative Assembly website](#).

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