



With Natasha Fyles' Resignation, Middle Arm Is Now Untenable

The Northern Territory Chief Minister Natasha Fyles has resigned after months of pressure over the controversial Middle Arm gas precinct and the fracking of the Beetaloo Basin.

Ms Fyles' final few months in office were clouded by her failure to address serious health, environmental and economic concerns about Middle Arm, and integrity concerns surrounding her share portfolio and close relationships with gas lobbyists.

It is clear that the Middle Arm development, and the fracking of the Beetaloo Basin, are untenable.

The Middle Arm project is a slow-moving disaster. It would unleash a 1.4 billion tonne carbon bomb into our atmosphere, and risk increasing respiratory disease and cancer rates in Darwin. There are persisting, serious questions about the integrity of the project, particularly given that Ms Fyles' senior political adviser is the director of the company lobbying for gas giant Tamboran.

Most recently, it was revealed the Federal Government is considering spending \$3.5 billion in taxpayer dollars -- more than double previously suggested -- to prop up this fossil fuel project. That is an outrageous misuse of public funds: we should be spending billions on supercharging the clean energy boom, not fossil fuels.

It's time for the Federal Government to withdraw its funding for Middle Arm.