

SURVEY RESULTS AT A GLANCE:

Question 1: Do you support fracking in the NT?

YES: 25 people / 5 %

NO: 397 people / 79.4%

MAYBE/UNSURE: 78 people / 15.6 %

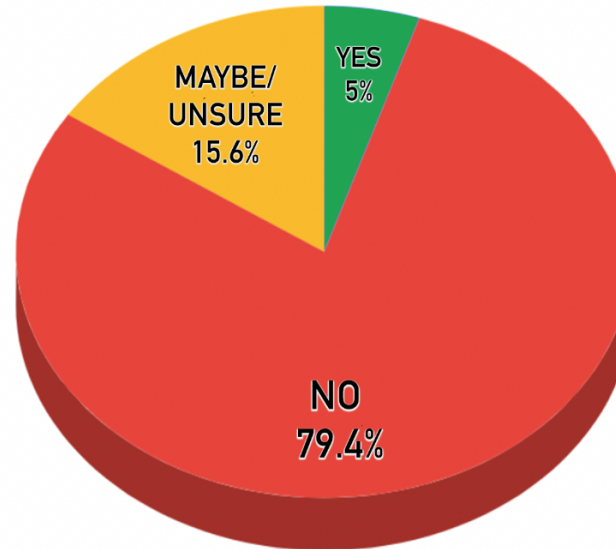
Question 2: Do you support federal government subsidies to the oil and gas industry in the NT?

YES: 35 people / 7 %

NO: 401 people / 80.2%

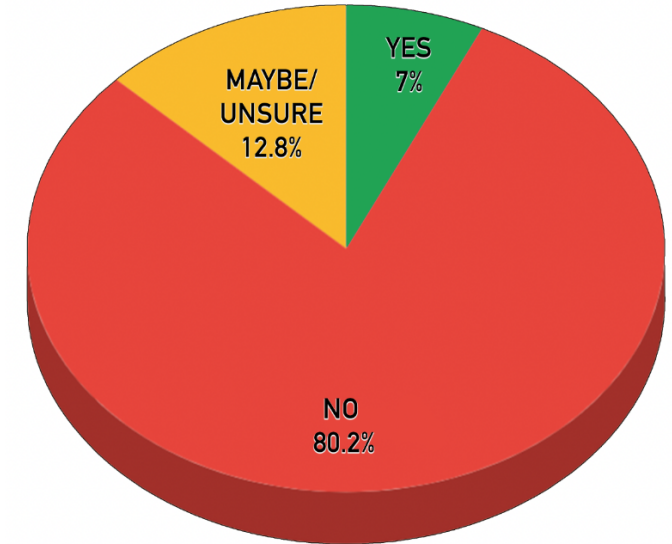
MAYBE/UNSURE: 64 people / 12.8 %

QUESTION 1 : DO YOU SUPPORT FRACKING IN THE NT?



**79.4% SAID NO AND
ONLY 5% SAID YES**

QUESTION 2: DO YOU SUPPORT FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SUBSIDIES TO THE OIL & GAS INDUSTRY* IN THE NT?



**80.2% SAID NO AND
ONLY 7% SAID YES**

SURVEY METHODS:

Who we surveyed to get this result:

We surveyed 500 people across Alice Springs, 2.7 percent of the adult population. Surveys were conducted via house-to-house door knocking, choosing streets at random from the 8 major suburbs of Alice Springs, plus a smaller sample (15) from Kilgariff, a suburb of 390 residents, to ensure a representative sample of the Alice Springs population. At least 50 people were surveyed from each of the eight major suburbs, with additional people surveyed in Gillen and Braitling; the two biggest suburbs in town. Streets were chosen via google maps based on the number of homes located on them. Longer streets with more homes were prioritised for ease of surveying. We surveyed every accessible house, skipping ones where the front door was inaccessible due to a locked gate or a nasty dog behind a fence.

Questions	Larapinta	Araluen	Sadadeen	Braitling	Gillen	The Gap	Desert Springs	Kilgariff	Eastside	Total numbers	%
fracking yes	3	0	3	4	4	2	6	1	2	25	5.00%
fracking no	43	45	42	61	69	41	38	7	51	397	79.40%
fracking maybe/ unsure	4	5	7	12	27	10	6	7	0	78	15.60%
fracking subtotal	50	50	52	77	100	53	50	15	53	500	100%
subsidies yes	4	3	4	5	6	3	7	1	2	35	7.00%
subsidies no	42	44	44	67	69	42	35	10	48	401	80.20%
subsidies maybe/ unsure	4	3	4	5	25	8	8	4	3	64	12.80%
subsidies total	50	50	52	77	100	53	50	15	53	500	100%

How we started the conversation:

After knocking, we introduced ourselves: *Hi, we're conducting a community survey on attitudes to fracking and public subsidies for the oil and gas industry in the NT. Do you have time to answer a few questions? We are surveying 500 people across Alice Springs to find out what they think, and will present the results to the member for Lingjari, Marion Scrymgour, who is our new local federal government MP.* If people asked who we were, we explained that we were volunteers conducting the survey on behalf of Arid Lands Environment Centre.

Our three questions were asked in the following order, with the third question only asked of those who answered ‘no’ to the second question:

1: *Do you support fracking in the NT?*

2: *Do you support public subsidies for the oil and gas industry? - (including for infrastructure such as pipelines, wastewater treatment plants, LNG export facilities and gas fired petrochemical facilities)*

3. *What would you prefer to see the Federal government spend money on in the NT?*

If someone asked: *What is fracking?* we answered:

Fracking is short for hydraulic fracturing, a method of mining for shale gas. Shale gas that is harder to get to than traditional gas like that at the Mereenie gas field or Bass Strait. Fracking involves drilling down and then across into shale rock and injecting a mixture of water, sand and chemicals into the well to ‘fracture’ the shale rock and release the gas. Commercial scale fracking involves drilling dozens or often hundreds of wells in a gas field. Fracking releases methane gas, which contributes to climate change. In the NT, there is currently some fracking happening in the Barkly/Roper Gulf region, between Elliot and Larrimah and east towards Borroloola. This is currently quite small scale (under 10 wells have been drilled) and still in the exploration stage; fracking companies are looking for gas to decide whether or not to go ahead with fracking at a commercial scale.

If someone asked: *Where would the gas be sold to?* we answered:

It’s currently not certain where the gas would go. It could be sent north to Darwin to power industrial facilities in Middle Arm. It could be sent east to the east coast market, or it could be exported overseas as LNG from Darwin or Gladstone. There are not yet any pipelines in place to transport the gas to any of these places. Currently 70 percent of Australia’s gas is exported as LNG and the rest is burnt in Australia.

If someone asked: *Will it create jobs?* we answered:

If fracking goes ahead in the Beetaloo Basin at the biggest scale planners project, it is modelled to create a maximum of 524 full time equivalent jobs. This is 0.5% of total NT jobs (according to data from ACIL Allen presented at the fracking inquiry). It is more likely that a smaller industry with a smaller amount of jobs created would occur.

ACIL ALLEN says the most likely budget scenario is that fracking would increase Territory revenues by between zero and \$29.1 million per year, a fraction of one percent. In the biggest possible gas industry scenario, fracking the Beetaloo Basin would cause an increase in Territory Government revenue of \$143.2 million per year, 2% of budget revenue.

If someone asked: *Will it poison our water?* we answered:

Contamination of water is the biggest concern people have about fracking. In other parts of the world (i.e. the USA and QLD), there have been issues with chemicals or methane leaking into water sources, particularly as gas wells age and corrode. The NT government has tightened environmental rules to increase the standard of construction and reduce the risk of water contamination but it is still possible that contamination could occur. Fracking is currently

not proposed for the area surrounding Alice Springs/ in our water catchment but there are many communities who live near the area where fracking is most likely to proceed who rely on groundwater for drinking consumption and everyday use.

If someone asked: *What subsidies are you talking about, or what would the money be spent on?* we answered:

The former Liberal government promised \$2.5 billion in Federal subsidies to increase and accelerate gas extraction in the NT. The new Federal Labor government is currently deciding whether to grant these subsidies. These proposed subsidies include money for pipelines to get the gas to market, grants for companies to expedite exploration, grants for wastewater treatment facilities, carbon capture and storage plants, expansion of the LNG export terminal in Darwin Harbour and the development of a petrochemicals precinct in Darwin Harbour.

If someone asked questions that indicated they were unfamiliar with the topic of fracking in the NT, we emphasised that they could answer 'maybe / unsure' for questions one and two.