

15 October 2021



VIA EMAIL environment.policy@nt.gov.au

To whom it may concern,

**Australian Services Union SA+NT Branch Submission to Draft Greenhouse Gas Emissions Offsets
Policy and Technical Guidelines**

Australian Services Union Northern Territory members working throughout the Northern Territory are extremely concerned about the impacts of expanding the fracking/unconventional gas industry in the Northern Territory. Members have raised concerns about the impacts on First Nations peoples, water and the climate damage that will be caused by expanding this industry.

ASU members work in industries and serve communities that are becoming increasingly exposed to the dangerous impacts of global warming in the Northern Territory. Rising extreme temperatures and weather events disproportionately impact upon First Nations peoples, people living with a disability, people sleeping rough, women and people on low incomes. These are all communities ASU members working in local government and community services support directly. Rising heat and extreme weather are an ever-increasing health and safety risk for ASU members. The expansion of the unconventional gas industry would significantly increase climate pollution and compound these impacts which is why it is the ASU's view that these projects should not go ahead. Failing this, any offset policy needs to be strong and robust.

ASU NT members have raised significant concerns with the proposed Greenhouse Gas Emissions Offsets Policy. Particularly its reliance on 'indirect' offsets such as funding research into technologies

rather than directly offsetting emissions. The ASU notes that the Pepper Inquiry recommended that all life cycle emissions should be offset in full.

Our union will be watching the results of this consultation with interest and look forward to working with the Northern Territory Government to promote climate friendly jobs and industries.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Abbie Spencer', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the left.

Abbie Spencer

SECRETARY

Australian Services Union – SA + NT Branch

Cc Michael Gunner, Chief Minister, Northern Territory Government