

Dr. David Borthwick  
Montara Inquiry  
P.O. Box 1564  
Canberra 2601

20th December 2009

**RE: Submission to The Commission of Inquiry – Montara Well Head  
Platform Uncontrolled Hydrocarbon Release**

I strongly believe there should be no further expansion of the petroleum industry on the North-West shelf of Australia's Kimberley region and the existing industry must be closed down.

Up to **23 million litres** of oil and condensate was spilled into the Timor Sea off the Kimberley from 21 August to 3 November this year 2009.

The oil spill was estimated to have affected 50 000 square km of seas off the Kimberley and oil slicks came within 69km off Australia's coast. And this occurred in seas that are internationally recognised as one of the last great unspoiled marine environments in the world.

PTTEP took 74 days to plug the flow temporarily and spent 3 weeks towing a repair rig to the site while declining the offer of another rig nearby.

The company made several failed attempts to plug the leak over several months.

This was the largest oil spillage in Australia and must be the last. The only way to ensure this is to shut down the petroleum industry and start investing in renewable sources.

Yours Sincerely,

Sarah Isaacs