

Dr. David Borthwick  
Montara Inquiry  
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14th 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 until such time as:

1. A network of marine parks with large sanctuaries is established in the Kimberley region to serve as protection from events like the West Atlas oil spill (Term of Reference 10);
2. It can be shown that proposals for expansion of the North-West petroleum industry are fully compliant with binding national climate change policies and targets (Term of Reference 11);
3. Faster response time mechanisms and improved oil spill procedures are developed and adopted – with strong independent compliance enforcement. (Term of Reference 8)
4. A full and proper assessment has been done on the effects of the uncontrolled hydrocarbon release on the environment, to evaluate the damage done to marine and terrestrial ecosystems, flora and fauna. This would give a guideline for future management of similar events, and better inform the scientific community on remediation and rehabilitation.

Yours Sincerely,

Jo McRae