

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications**  
**Legislation Committee**  
Answers to questions on notice  
**Environment portfolio**

**Question No:** 166  
**Hearing:** Supplementary Budget Estimates  
**Outcome:** Outcome 4  
**Programme:** Science  
**Topic:** FRACKING CHEMICALS  
**Hansard Page:** N/A  
**Question Date:** 29 October 2014  
**Question Type:** Written

**Senator Waters asked:**

Has the Department conducted a risk-based assessment of what might go wrong, considering the large outstanding uncertainties about this industry?

- a. What kinds of findings have you made? How do you manage uncertainty in these assessments?
- b. Is the Department aware of anyone within Government who are modelling these kinds of costs? Who?

**Answer:**

The Department is currently undertaking an assessment of chemicals associated with CSG extraction. The project will produce a suite of reports examining potential human health and environmental risks from chemicals used in CSG extraction.

- a. Project findings are not yet complete as project material is currently undergoing peer review.
- b. The Department is not aware of modelling being undertaken.