

FACT SHEET

Mineral Resources Legislation (Ban on Fracking) Bill 2026

The *Mineral Resources Legislation (Ban on Fracking) Act 2026* amends the *Mineral Resources Development Act 1995* to prohibit hydraulic fracturing (fracking) for any purpose other than the production of geothermal energy.

This prohibition applies to mining authorisation, which is defined as lease or licence under the Act, or any authorisation under the Act that allows for mining, investigation or research.

The prohibition is enforced by stipulating that a mining authorisation cannot authorise fracking for any purpose other than the production of geothermal energy. Any term or condition on a mining authorisation that allows, or purports to allow, for such fracking is voided by the bill. The prohibition applies to both new and existing mining authorisations.

Fracking is defined as the process of injecting a substance, including water, into a bore under pressure for the purposes of stimulating a geological formation; as well as any other processes prescribed to be fracking by the regulations.

The Act commences on Royal Assent.