

# Call for proper assessment of 'fracking' chemicals

ABC News, 2-24-11

The National Toxic Network is calling for a moratorium on the use of hydraulic drilling and fracturing chemical used in the extraction of coal seam gas, until the chemical have been fully assessed.

The network says only two out of the 23 most commonly used chemicals have been assessed by the National Industrial Chemical Notification and Assessment Scheme

"When you look at the scientific literature, a number of these chemicals are listed as endocrine disrupters, that is, they affect the hormone system, or reproductive toxins," said Dr Mariann Lloyd-Smith, national adviser to the network.

"A number of them have been associated with spontaneous abortion in people, others are listed a probable or possible human carcinogens.

"These are a very serious bunch of hazardous chemicals."