

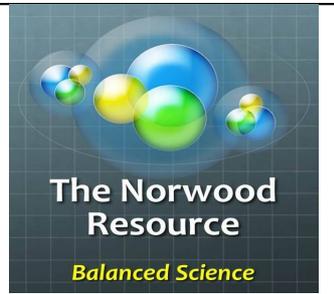
# NEWSLETTER

The Norwood Resource Incorporated

ABN: 39 286 963 247

Registered ACNC

Issue 15: August 2016



## Welcome

Welcome to The Norwood Resource (TNR)'s August 2016 Newsletter in which we summarise progress made during July and outline any plans for the next month or so. Details about why we formed, together with our mission, [can be found here](#).

Our mission is to assemble and disseminate factual, scientific and verifiable information and challenge/counter misinformation in the public arena. We take some of our inspiration from the words of the then Federal (Labor) Resources Minister, Gary Gray, who stated in his address at the 2013 APPEA conference:

*“We need to put evidence and science into the current debate – and balance the misinformation that is being peddled in the public arena, and we need to be robust about it.”*

## Published/Presented during July

July was a busy month mainly as a result of the GAB Alliance campaign against drilling in the Bight. The campaign is a classic example of Gary Gray's comments in the speech referred to above which is *“about spreading fear and confusion to achieve a dramatic media-driven objective.”* TNR has previously written about this speech in the article entitled:

[“The Norwood Resource supports the Federal Resources Minister's comments”](#).

TNR's strategy to attempt to counter/challenge this campaign included publication of three articles, making factual comments on the GAB Alliance Facebook page and preparing a flyer specifically targeting the upcoming visit of Sea Shepherd's vessel to various locations in South Australia during August.

On July 3<sup>rd</sup> our article entitled:

*“Nobel laureates (and TNR) question eNGOs' anti-scientific stand”*

was inspired by a [letter written by more than 100 Nobel laureates](#) imploring Greenpeace to refrain from its anti-scientific stand against genetically modified organisms (GMOs). Although TNR does not have expertise in this area, the concerns about Greenpeace expressed by the GMO scientists are remarkably similar to the concerns regarding Greenpeace's (and other eNGOs) misinformed campaigns on issues such as “seismic surveys and marine life”.

Late in the month we published an article entitled *“GAB Alliance sets 'sail' in sea of misinformation”* which strongly questioned the misleading claims of GAB Alliance members such as The Wilderness Society and Sea Shepherd Conservation Society, as well as friends/supporters of the GAB Alliance, such as Kangaroo Island (KI) Dolphin Watch.

A few days later, following the deletion of a TNR member's comment and his subsequent banning from the GAB Alliance Facebook page (for a comment that simply challenged The Wilderness Society's claims), TNR published the article:

[“GAB Alliance now censors information”](#)

This latter article was also published by Petroleum News Review ([pnronline.com.au](#)) in an article entitled:

*“GAB Alliance withholds free speech”* with the following parts of the introduction being of particular relevance to both industry members and TNR members:

*“In an open and free society, it is deplorable that this eNGO (The GAB Alliance) and others should deny the rights of individuals to call into question the organisation's comments or 'facts' distributed through its social media platforms.”* and:

*“If you agree that this is not an acceptable practice in a free society, please consider posting your concerns on to the [GAB Facebook page](#). Be ready for your comment to be removed and being banned from adding further posts.”*

TNR's committee members have been busy during the month posting comments calling into question the claims made on a number of eNGO sites.

In addition, a flyer has been prepared which calls into question the GAB Alliance's campaign against the GAB drilling program. It challenges and counters the so-called ‘facts’ (which actually amount to misinformation, myths, scare-mongering tactics and distortions of the truth) used by the GAB Alliance members. It also points (with referenced evidence) out that key stakeholders in the area, such as the Australian Southern Bluefin Tuna Industry Association (ASBTIA) and the Eyre Peninsula Local Government Association are actually supportive of the exploration drilling program

## Membership and Branch formation

To be a robust voice in the community, TNR must have a vibrant membership consisting of individuals from all walks of life who are **passionately** interested in balanced debate. Having achieved sufficient members in SA and WA to set up branches we are keen to set up branches in other states/regions.

Relevant information about [becoming a member is on our website](#).

Special thanks to all those members who have recently become members and those who have renewed their membership.

## TNR and the media/public

As mentioned previously, TNR has been actively challenging and countering misinformation in the media. Unfortunately, the torrent of misinformation is increasing and there are many examples that go unchallenged. Rather than simply countering all misinformation in the media, TNR's committee members are very willing to engage with community groups and schools on such topics as seismic surveys and marine life, the facts about fracking, etc. If any member is aware of community or school groups that would like to better understand the facts and science behind current topical debates about the oil/gas industry in the community, please do not hesitate to [contact us](#).

## Countering/Challenging misinformation.

CIGs are important when it comes to challenging misinformation!

More details on CIGs can be found in our [November Newsletter](#).

**NB. Please consider volunteering to become part of this important initiative.**

Website: [www.thenorwoodresource.org.au](http://www.thenorwoodresource.org.au)

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