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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 9 July 2015 3:26 PM  
**To:** EPC  
**Subject:** Submission to the Environment & Planning Committee Inquiry into Unconventional Gas in Victoria

To the Environment and Planning Committee,

- I wish to strongly express my support for the 'no fracking' campaign. Victorian people don't want coal seam gas.

The fact is we don't need an unconventional gas industry in Victoria to supply energy. 'Unconventional' gas is not a renewable source of energy - it is polluting, contributes to climate change, and is not required as a fuel to transition between fossil fuels and renewables. Not only that, but 'unconventional' gas is the same as 'conventional' gas, albeit sourced in an even more damaging way. We can make a planned transition to 100% renewables in Victoria without the need for gas as a 'bridging' fuel, but we need to start investing in real renewables like solar and wind power urgently. Furthermore, divesting the planet of its internal combustion fuel may ultimately render us something like Mars! Where is the sense in unwarming our inner-heated planet by removing and consuming all of its stored energy which is consumed in the process of internal fire, which maintains earth as a 'warm' and life-sustaining planet!

- We don't need an unconventional gas industry in Victoria to provide employment. Supporting and growing our renewables industry will provide more jobs that are future-proofed and lead to greater long-term employment growth in Victoria. Growth in our renewables industry provides a valuable opportunity for re-skilling and redeploying workers who need help to transition from traditional energy production roles – there are now more people employed installing solar panels in Victoria than in coal generation.
- Other jurisdictions like New York City and Ohio have already instituted permanent bans on coal seam gas, and Victoria should follow suit, as this is what the community wants.
- Coal seam gas carries massive and proven risks for the environment and health. It threatens our environment, land productivity, agricultural industries, our water supply, our communities and public health, and the risks are far too great to be mitigated or outweighed by any benefits.
- Victorian communities don't want unconventional gas. At least 30 communities have already declared themselves gasfield-free, and the number continues to grow. The Government needs to respect the wishes of Victorian communities.

Please represent us, your constituent Victorian citizens, by strongly opposing any and all coal seam gas explorations and developments. Prevent this wasteful and destructive project from continuing here!  
sincerely yours,

**Tass Holmes**  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]