

- Gas will negatively impact on Victoria's prime agricultural land.
- The risks to the water table cannot be adequately managed, and potential problems not yet known cannot be guarded against,
- Employ the precautionary principle to ensure that where such scientific uncertainty may exist it is not used as a reason to go ahead with gas extraction plans. Where uncertainty exists it should rather be used as a reason to not go ahead due to potential risks. This is the only way to responsibly protect the environment for many generations ahead. Unforeseen consequences do occur and management strategies are often grossly inadequate largely due to a range of unknown factors. This can be evidenced from the recent Morwell mine fire.
- The rights and wishes of landowners and farmers will likely be abrogated by big business to the detriment of landholders.
- Gas is not in short supply in Victoria and it is likely any gas extracted would be sold on the international market resulting in higher not lower prices for Victorian and Australian customers.
- Gas is not a clean fuel and has been shown to be a greater contributor to greenhouse emissions than previously estimated.
- Investment should be directed towards genuine renewable energy with a zero carbon footprint.
- The interests of Corporations should not be put ahead of the interests of the people. Gas extraction will not benefit the interests of the people. Any supposed job gains would be more than offset by job losses and productivity losses in tourism and farming.
- Investment in renewable energy will be a far more productive and long term strategy when it comes to creating ongoing employment well into the future.
- The world is moving away from greenhouse intensive industries and in a few years carbon pricing and improvements in renewable energy will make fossil fuels obsolete so that any proposed future for the fossil fuel industry will in fact be cut short. Projections of profits and employment well into the future will become pipe dreams.
- Supporting big business over the interests of the people and the planet is unethical.

Yours Sincerely

Peter Sublet