

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 4 August 2015 7:54 AM
To: EPC
Subject: Re: FRACK FREE VICTORIA

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Kate Lidgerwood

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[REDACTED]

From: kate lidgerwood [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 8 July 2015 4:49 PM
To: EPC
Subject: FRACK FREE VICTORIA

Parliamentary Inquiry into Unconventional Gas

To the Environment and Planning Committee,

I, Kate Lidgerwood grew up on a beautiful farm near the River side town of Winchelsea. This river being the Barwon. Its an extremely important aspect of my childhood and hopefully my grandchildren's childhood.

The Geelong and Bellarine population receives 70% of their reticulated water from the Barwon River system, some of which includes groundwater from the Gerangamete bore-field. The quality and chemistry of this water could be adversely affected by future mining, such as the fracking process, that uses toxic chemicals, plus great volumes of

water, to extract gas from deep underground. There has been no guarantee, from anybody, that groundwater will not be contaminated, and that residue water coming back to the surface, immediate or long-term (when the well is capped, and the mining company has left) – will not find its way into the water catchment system.

If we want to promote our district (and support all those areas within G21) as producers and protectors of quality agricultural items, and that we value eco-tourism and the jobs that it brings – it might well be that, in this instance, mining, water harvesting and agriculture pursuits are not compatible – and therefore not in our long-term interests, or the interest of our grandchildren.

I am very frustrated with the notion that I need to prove the industry is not safe. I am not going to go into all the reasons why our towns are locking their gates. Instead I'll quote from our declaration:

We stand together as a community against gasfield industrialisation.

We stand together as a community against risks to our water.

We stand together as a community against risks to our health.

We stand together as a community, one strong community who has locked the gate.

Thank you,

Kate Lidgerwood

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