

From: Jan Earthstar [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 10 July 2015 1:16 PM
To: EPC
Subject: inquiry submission on unconventional gas

Dear Parliamentary Inquiry members into unconventional gas,

I write to you with feedback and concerns around fracking in Victoria and bring several of these to your discussion:

- Australia is embarrassingly behind other developed countries in establishing renewable energy as a long term sustainable energy source. Victoria needs a permanent ban on all unconventional gas.*
- As a residents of the beautiful Macedon Ranges I cannot image anything worse than fracking to compromise health, wealth and happiness in our area. I believe that protecting Victoria from fracking and other unconventional gas will protect existing jobs, especially in agriculture and tourism.*
- Living in the country it easy to identify that there's no way that the risks to farming land and our water resources can be safely managed. Many past examples of environmental disasters implicate that regulatory systems can fail, and that failure can lead to environmental and public health disasters. It is not worth the risk.*
- On researching the underlying need for gas in Victoria I looked into reports from the Australian Energy Market Operator. According to them there is no gas shortage in Victoria or anywhere else in Australia, so why do it???*
- Victoria's energy focus should be toward zero carbon emissions. As mentioned above we lag behind other western countries in our feeble attempts at achieving zero emissions. If we focus on renewable energy sources we have a real chance.*
- Extraction is precarious- There is growing evidence of fugitive emissions (ie. leaking) from unconventional gas processes, showing that gas is not as clean as once thought, and there is no time for fossil fuels that are just less dirty. Gas therefore has no place in Victoria's future energy mix. If Victoria is to be considered a leader on climate change, the government cannot allow a new gas industry to be established.*
- The best solution for consumers to reduce gas bills is through energy efficiency initiatives. No amount of Victorian gas production will reduce the prices that consumers have to pay. Gas prices have increased because LNG exports from the east coast have linked us to international markets where prices are higher. A Victorian gas industry will not save consumers money..*

I look forward to hearing back regarding your decision and receiving valid, sound feedback on my comments and reasoning.