

From: Margaret Waddington [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, 4 July 2015 5:32 PM
To: EPC
Subject: Submission to the Inquiry into Unconventional Gas in Victoria

Inquiry into Unconventional Gas in Victoria

Margaret and Michael Waddington

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Dear Sir/Madam

We would like to make a submission to the State government's Inquiry into unconventional gas.

We purchased our property to protect what remained of its natural heritage and cemented that protection by covering the entire property with a Conservation Covenant with Trust for Nature and also Land for Wildlife protection, both organizations associated with the Victorian Government.

Victoria is unfortunately the state with the highest amount of native flora and fauna depletion due to over excessive clearance rates and we feel should not be subject to further land and more water degradation due to the risks of unconventional gas mining and fracking.

We have seen the destruction of ancient native trees, including scar trees, with the commencement of mineral sands mining in the immediate area, near Douglas. We have witnessed the steep rise in house prices due to the mining company, the destruction of our roads, the noise, 24 hours a day, every day, the dust and now radioactive waste that is being dumped from interstate mining ventures, into a pit 3 kms from our home. We have had to endure a detrimental effect on our health and well being, extra work to eliminate the dust in our water tanks, on our home and vehicles over the years of the mine working. Now the possible leaching from the unlined pit into the underground water table and hence into the Glenelg River and remaining wetlands are cause for more alarm.

We have seen the level of the Glenelg River drop considerably due to the amount of underground water extraction from nearby bores, for use by the mine, then the added concern knowing that most bores leak toxins and the worry of spills into the water table system.

With the effects already abundant from climate change, plus Australia being the driest continent on the planet, surely common sense should prevail and destructive mining practices causing environmental vandalism of the little remaining native flora and fauna in the state of Victoria should not be allowed.

Future generations will not look favourably on the greedy generations, present and past in regard to the exploitation of Victoria's natural environment and of the country as a whole which has inevitably exacerbated the effects of climate change.

Margaret and Michael Waddington

██████████

████████████████████