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From: Committee Services Office
Sent: Sunday, 5 July 2015 10:38 AM
To: EPC
Subject: New Submission to Inquiry into Unconventional Gas in Victoria.

Inquiry Name: Inquiry into Unconventional Gas in Victoria.

Mrs Margarita Kunnick
[REDACTED]

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SUBMISSION CONTENT:

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I wish to register my complete opposition to fracking anywhere within our region. I believe there are too many possible adverse risks to human lives, the environment and our future generations.

The industry has not proved without a doubt that there will be no negative effects on our health and the environment, particularly in the long term. As a family, we are unable to accept these risks, not only on a personal level, but because our house in Grovedale is our only appreciable asset. We love living in the area and are financially unable to move.

Most of the exploration license [PEP 163] is either under, or very close to, residential areas. If fracking were permitted, it could occur anywhere within those areas.

We find it hard to believe that the State Government would even consider fracking as a viable option for the future development of Geelong.

At the recent Colac information session, a Victorian State Government representative confirmed it would not create any local jobs because fracking companies bring in their own trained workers.

There are other industries – particularly in the renewables sector – that the city could promote and support with less, or nil, adverse risks. Overseas, clean, renewable industries actually employ far more people than dirty, dangerous industries like fracking.

Geelong's clean, green reputation could also be jeopardised. Many Melbourne people are now considering moving to Geelong. Commuter trains to Melbourne are frequent and affordable. If fracking was permitted, many of these would reconsider.

In line with the vision of the Armstrong Creek development, we should be creating a clean and green Geelong. Fracking licence PEP 163 which extends under the whole of Armstrong Creek is simply not part of that vision.

Would we be prepared to convey to new residents the message that “yes, we wanted you to come, yes, we know you mortgaged yourselves to the hilt to buy your dream homes but no, we do not care what happens to you, your families or those homes”?

Finally, our water is a precious and limited resource. We all remember clearly the 10-year drought, scrimping every drop, our filthy vehicles and our dustbowl gardens.

We understand Geelong City Council and Barwon Water have put measures in place to ensure this does not occur again, but all the new developments require water too. Fracking uses vast quantities of water, most of which is not recuperated. This should be a deep concern for all the authorities involved. The quality of our water is also at risk.

Geelong people should not have to endure contaminated and more expensive water for the benefit of frackers, who will move on to the next well when done.

Please support the majority view of the Geelong community and DO NOT allow fracking anywhere in our beautiful region.

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File1:

File2:

File3: