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**From:** Inquiry into Unconventional Gas POV eSubmission Form  
<cso@parliament.vic.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Monday, 6 July 2015 2:52 PM  
**To:** EPC  
**Subject:** New Submission to Inquiry into Unconventional Gas in Victoria.

Inquiry Name: Inquiry into Unconventional Gas in Victoria.

Mr Ken Pearce  
[REDACTED]

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**SUBMISSION CONTENT:**

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The major responsibility of Victorian MPs is to look after the interests of Victorian people.  
To allow fracking is to betray those people.

**Negatives:**

- frackers do not care about the environment, agriculture, water availability or human health because they can return overseas, not live with the outcomes of their actions;
- Victoria was recently in the grip of a 10 year drought and we are on track for another very shortly. Fracking contaminates vast quantities of potable water which we simply cannot spare;
- the chemicals used are extremely dangerous to human health;
- there are no jobs for locals, because overseas fracking companies bring their own skilled staff, who may also be foreign;
- methane gas can escape into rivers and farmland as seen in Queensland;
- chemical leakage or fugitive gases could contaminate Victorian aquifers, which may never be contaminant-free again;
- Victoria's "clean, green" agricultural image overseas could be ruined causing serious damage to our exports;
- organic produce could disappear. Once contaminated, land is useless.
- serious residential property damage could occur;
- it could damage commercial and government properties;
- we do not even get the gas which is sold overseas to the highest bidder;
- for nearby residents the 24/7 operations could cause sleep deprivation, anxiety, stress and other mental illnesses;

**Alternatives:**

- Australia has more than enough sunshine for domestic and commercial needs;
- many Victorians are installing panels on their roofs;
- the money wasted cleaning up after frackers would be better used subsidising solar panels;
- for renters/those unable to afford them, solar farms could be viable;

- other renewables are also possible – e.g. for larger properties, wind generators;
- alternatives are not only better for the environment, they can actually bring new jobs - both in manufacture and installation/maintenance;

Alternatives are a win/win I would say!

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File1:

File2:

File3: