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From: Inquiry into Unconventional Gas POV eSubmission Form
<cso@parliament.vic.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 6 July 2015 4:08 PM
To: EPC
Subject: New Submission to Inquiry into Unconventional Gas in Victoria.

Inquiry Name: Inquiry into Unconventional Gas in Victoria.

Miss Tria Manley
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SUBMISSION CONTENT:

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I'm writing to express my deep concern over the possibility of unconventional gas drilling in Victoria, and to call for a permanent ban on any such ventures (including coal seam gas, tight gas, shale gas & underground coal gasification).

I have lived in Victoria for 3 years as a New Zealander who now calls Australia home. In my 35 years on Earth I have witnessed environmental degradation on a scale I'd hoped not to experience. We live in a magnificent country with every resource available to halt the destruction of beautiful nature, protect our food and water security, continue to develop and invest in remarkable renewable energy technologies, and do all we can to mitigate catastrophic climate change. We have this window of opportunity to be world leaders and not only prosper ourselves, but leave a legacy for generations to come, including our children's.

Many rural communities have conducted surveys, and in areas where people are educated about the potential risks associated with unconventional gas mining and the long term consequences, there is strong community opposition. Look around Australia for real examples, of the catastrophes in the farmlands of Queensland, to the resistance in New South Wales. Why would we jeopardise our water and farmland by allowing risky practices? Just a few of the reasons not to allow any kind of unconventional gas drilling include:

- Pollution of water, surface and below ground aquifers by chemicals and gas
- Increase in climate change - destruction of carbon storing forests, continuing to burn gas instead of committing to wind and solar power, among other renewable sources
- Destruction of natural and beautiful places, habitats of native animals and plants (clearing, toxic spills)
- Damage to Victoria's food production farmlands, dairy, crops and pastures, rich soil areas
- Increased leaks increasing as time goes on
- Inclusion of geologically unsuitable areas e.g. limestone, recent volcanic activity in current exploration maps

A great deal more research is needed before unconventional gas drilling can be deemed safe, and in the mean time we must not tread paths that we can't return from.

I urge you, consider the livelihoods and health of the people whose land is under exploration licence. Consider the impassioned and educated plea of the communities who will be the most immediately affected. Consider the deep and lasting impact on our natural world. Question the agendas of companies who are pushing for these deals with money as their key motivator.

Please read articles about recent contamination events including the following example from NSW, and ask yourselves if this is a risk any human should take.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2015-03-21/soil-samples-from-the-pilliga-reveal-27toxic27-levels-of-chem/6336166>

Thank you for your time,
regards
Tria Manley

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File1:

File2:

File3: