

Inquiry Name: Inquiry into Unconventional Gas in Victoria.

Ms Lyn O'Brien
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SUBMISSION CONTENT:

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I live in Melbourne and will not be directly affected by unconventional gas mining, however I am extremely concerned about the effects on the farming communities in country Victoria who will undoubtedly be adversely impacted by this practice.

As the custodians of our states precious natural resources I believe it is imperative that we take this responsibility seriously and do not place these resources at risk.

Investment in renewable energy resources is clearly becoming more cost effective and world wide trends suggest the way of the future. Victoria is ideally placed to take advantage of this trend. It seems reckless to even consider unconventional gas mining with its' many inherent risks when we have viable renewable energy alternatives.

Our farming land and our unpolluted countryside are clearly part of our states greatest assets. These are resources that many countries would covet, yet we are considering a proposal that would jeopardise these assets. Unconventional gas mining has been in place for some time and unfortunately the data collected clearly indicates that the practice is fraught with many problems, the most serious being the effects on water quality. Most importantly however unconventional gas mining could threaten our reputation for "clean, green" produce. Once this is lost there will be little chance of Victoria redeeming this reputation. Victoria is a beautiful part of Australia. Our farms and coastline are treasures not only because of their natural beauty but also because of their pristine condition. Please do not risk damaging this.