

**From:** Pat Fraser [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 7 July 2015 3:48 PM  
**To:** EPC  
**Subject:** Fwd: SUBMISSION to the Victorian Legislative Council's Environment and Planning Committee Inquiry into whether or not there should be an onshore unconventional gas industry in Victoria

**SUBMISSION** to the Victorian Legislative Council's Environment and Planning Committee Inquiry into whether or not there should be an onshore unconventional gas industry in Victoria : From Patricia Fraser, [REDACTED]  
 7th July, 2015

Dear Planning & Environment Committee members,  
 Further to my support for the Submission below.

I attended the first meeting in Inverloch early in 2002 after the first Application for an Exploration License was made by Leichhardt Resources P.L. in the Inverloch Hall, and others soon after Leongatha\* and Welshpool At the \*Leongatha Shire Council Meeting I presented a Petition of 350 signatures gathered in the 10 days between the announcement of the Shire's meeting. The DPI's information day at Leongatha soon after was also packed, as have been the almost countless meetings and mass demonstrations that followed. CSG and related mining proposals are the most serious threat facing a massive area and I hope you have access to the DPI's own Maps which by now should cover other areas under threat as well. To allow the destruction of vast tracts of farming land which we know cannot ever be restored and the wastage of precious water and contamination of same cannot be regarded as either environmentally or economically responsible. Any approval of these ventures will also make it virtually impossible to stop planned black and brown coal ventures which are also threaten precious areas. The future of the areas under Lease is in your hands and it is to be hoped that you will act in favour of the environment and residents as we know only too well what happens when things go wrong – the Mining Companies walk away and the communities are left in ruin as has already happened in Morwell and countless communities in Australia and overseas.

Please listen to the people.

Very sincerely,

Patricia Fraser.

I have attended various events organised by the Lock the Gate Victoria movement over the past 4 years since mine and other rural communities have come under Exploration Licences for Coal and for CSG. I have also stayed in touch with this issue via the media as it directly concerns the future of ourselves, other rural communities and Victoria in general.

I have found the information put out by Lock the Gate groups in Victoria to be very helpful in both expressing my own, and our community's concerns and in gaining an understanding of the concerns of other

Victorians in regard to the possibility of onshore Gas Fields in our State.

I fully support the more than 70 (and growing) Lock the Gate groups across Victoria. In particular, I support their efforts to convince all members of this Committee and to strongly and unanimously recommend to the Victorian Parliament, for all the reasons these groups continue to argue to governments on our behalf, that:

- a. this industry not go ahead in Victoria; and
- b. as a matter of priority, the Government investigate the potential, benefits, opportunities and needs for the renewable sector to make a major contribution to our energy generation mix and to our export sector