

**From:** Pam Parker [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 7 July 2015 11:45 PM  
**To:** EPC  
**Subject:** No onshore gas mining

Dear Committee,

The Australian Landscape Trust operates a research farm in Central Gippsland on the north shore of Lake Wellington. The trust is a not for profit Environmental Organisation, trustee for a heritage listed property that is a bequest of Dr H C Disher who charged his trustees with 'proving new knowledge of benefit to the farming community.

The Trust employs scientists who are dedicated to primary production and conservation, keys to the wellbeing of this area.

We are astounded that there is a debate about whether to engage in unconventional gas mining in this area. The land is used for primary production and it is a part of the watershed of the Gippsland Lakes which, among many other benefits to Victoria, generate tourism income and provides water to Melbourne.

How is it possible in 2015, given the knowledge and commitment of Government to sustainable uses of natural resources and protection of the natural heritage, the Ramsar listing of the Lakes, the importance of food supplies and public health that there is consideration of putting these resources at risk for a relatively short-term gain in the private sector with the consequence of incalculable risk to the community and, ultimately to Government?

No one can predict the movement of gases and other substances in fractured substrate as has been amply demonstrated throughout areas where gas mining has taken place.

There are far more, far greater and far more durable economic uses of this land that are already in place and far more people dependent upon income from this land as it is than can be gained from unconventional gas mining.

Sincerely,

Pamela Parker PhD  
Program Director  
Australian Landscape Trust