

Danniel Bennett



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3rd July, 2015

Mr Keir Delaney, Secretary, Environment & Planning Committee

Parliament House, Spring Street, East Melbourne VIC 3002

Re. Inquiry into Unconventional Gas in Victoria

Dear Members of the Committee.

I write to object to the proposed unconventional gas industries expansion, as I believe it will have long term harmful effects on our rural communities, industries and ecology. Having personally observed some of the disruption that has occurred in Queensland rural areas, I am absolutely not in favour of an increased gas industry.

I am a tradesperson who works locally and my family has considerable farm land. We cannot afford disruption to our water, or have multiple access roads and pipe lines criss crossing our land.

The roads in this area are in a state of constant disrepair and this will become much, much worse with increased truck/semitrailer traffic required.

I would also question the justification of a fuel rebate concession issued to mining companies that will wreck our roads.

Will this committee check the failing rate of tailings dams, as I have seen unsubstantiated figures of 85% of eventual failure. I was unable to verify this, but it is an essential statistic. The industry's own figures for gas well failure is stunningly bad. That we would consider an industry that acknowledges well failure that will eventually lead to inter-aquifer contamination is to be condemned.

Thank you for considering my views.

