

RECEIVED 7 JULY 2015

Paul Bennett

Keir Delaney,
Secretary, Environment & Planning Committee
Parliament House, Spring Street,
East Melbourne VIC 3002

Inquiry into Unconventional Gas in Victoria

Dear Madam,

Why is our State Government in such a hurry to sell our energy resources at a time of internationally depressed prices? This is not sensible.

We should use these resources with care and not presume that short term profit is the best outcome.

The current international energy price war will not last forever and we don't want to be tied in to low cost contracts, when prices return to near average.

The suggestion that domestic usage justifies increased output, is not supported by the current statistics. I believe that gas usage is static, or in slight decline.

Even with our population increase at 400,000 per year, we have very long term supplies if we don't increase exports.

Our resources should be used to give our industries an advantage, not permit others to outsell us due to low cost fuel.

Consider the huge aluminium and fertilizer chemical plants being built in the Middle East because of cheap energy.

We will close our smelters, and have lost several single superphosphate production facilities, with Portland precarious.

Rural communities with gas exploration permit licences in their shires have rejected unconventional gas with over 90% rejection rates.

In August 2014, our Glenelg Shire Council voted unanimously to declare itself 'Unconventional Gasfield Free.' Overflowing the public space, many members of the community, witnessed and applauded this wise decision.

I implore this Inquiry Committee to BAN Unconventional Gas Processing. It's economically and environmentally risky. Rather support Renewable Energy Industries, and stop wasting time bowing to the finite, fossil fuel Industry. This is the outcome I expect from you.

Yours sincerely

