

From: Inquiry into Unconventional Gas POV eSubmission Form
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Sent: Wednesday, 8 July 2015 12:56 PM
To: EPC
Subject: New Submission to Inquiry into Unconventional Gas in Victoria.

Inquiry Name: Inquiry into Unconventional Gas in Victoria.

Mr Jack Doeven


SUBMISSION CONTENT:

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Parliamentary submission

Our concerns regarding UCG, vigneron in SW Victoria.

Instability of limestone formation on which SW Victoria sits. Prone to sink hole formation, it has existing major fault lines. As shown in Florida, massive draw down on water supply causes collapse of limestone caves due to loss of water pressure and support.

The strong potential risk of earthquakes and possible resumption of volcanic activity.

Agricultural use of our farmland has been proven to be far more profitable in the long term than the short term UCG industry. (Australian Institute research)

Focus on the development of small businesses will bring about far more stable long term jobs in our local community than UCG.

The local road system is ill equipped to deal with the traffic that will be generated by this industry.

The clean green promotion of our farm produce will be lost. This is worth millions of dollars to our farming community.

An unrecoverable drop in the water table causing all farmers difficulty with their water supply, due to the drawdown caused by UCG production.

The undoubted failure of wells (5% upon initial drilling rising to 30% over a well's life time) and the resulting pollution of the water table.

The use of extremely toxic chemicals in the extraction process.

Totally inadequate handling of 'produce water' recovered from the wells. Leakage, flooding and dam failure will result in soil and local water storage pollution, putting at risk our stock and wildlife dependent on these sources.

Chemicals and heavy metals are brought to the surface which are extremely dangerous (B-TEX –AGL, uranium-Santos)

Land values will fall due to the industrialisation of the land scape. One complication of this is the reduced capacity to borrow money for agricultural development based on this land value.

The effects of UCG are not confined to the one farm they are operating on. Negative effects do not stop at the boundary fence.

Questions are being raised regards the negative effects on peoples' health, particularly children, who live in the proximity of UCG wells.

This industry is based on a lie. There is not a looming gas shortage in Australia. Our gas is being sold at world parity prices overseas and that is where this gas is going.

There has been shown to be a projected fall in the demand for gas as its price rises and people move to renewable sources of energy.

Before this industry proceeds it must show it has the financial capability and the good will to totally restore and repair the land and its people to their previous status and it must be bound to do this.

Based on sound scientific research, countries around the world are shunning UCG, why don't we heed their concerns and use their research?

Unfortunately, as has been shown many times before, no amount of monitoring or regulations will prevent a potentially catastrophic accident.

Australia should be moving into the future, developing renewable energy resources.

No matter how we try we can see no good reason to support the development of UCG throughout the farmlands of Victoria.

Submitted by Jack and Lois Doeven, Drumborg Victoria.

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File1:

File2:

File3: