

5<sup>th</sup> July 2015  
Josephine Richardson

TO: The Parliamentary Inquiry into Unconventional Gas Committee

Dear Sir's/Madam's

I am writing to you about my concern about allowing the unconventional gas industry to develop in Victoria. My husband and I moved to Seaspray 4 years ago. We moved to for a peaceful quiet and clean lifestyle were we could grow our own food and work until we retire. Not long after we moved to the area I attended an information day where there were a few speakers. After this I wanted to learn more so I continued to research on the internet more and more. There is so much information. The more I learned the more concerned I became. I have always considered myself a conservative person and for the first time in my life I find myself wondering what is going on?

I am worried about the fact that there are wells in Seaspray so close to Merriman's creek which is our town's water supply. What safe guards are there that this will not be contaminated? How will you fix if it is contaminated? The creek also runs into the ocean here. How will this affect the marine life? Will it be safe to eat the fish caught?

I worry about our community and I already see divisions. When we surveyed the community door to door and 98% of the people living into Seaspray did not want the onshore gas industry in Seaspray however there are parts of the wider community from further away that are involved down here. For example when our group tried to hire the Surf Club for a function we were refused because Lakes Oil had made a donation to the Club and didn't want to risk not getting any more donations. This is crazy we all live in the same community? We also support the Surf Club.

Monday to Friday I work in the Latrobe Valley in administration. The pollution there is terrible. I look forward to getting home to our little piece of paradise every day. The stress of all of this has taken a toll on me. I don't know if I will be able to live here if this industry goes ahead. I am very worried. Will our property be worth anything? Will I have to be paying my mortgage for a worthless piece of land? I worry about my future how will I be able to retire? If our environment is affected who will have to pay to fix it? Will be left to deal with the consequences of this industry by ourselves?

I feel that it is important to consider future generations and that we should leave this world in a better state that we inherited it. We do not need this gas. Our Bass Strait oil fields are producing all that we need. Peter Ryan was always on the news telling us this the last time when he was telling us about the new off shore gas development he did say we had 35 years of gas.

I am just an ordinary person and there is much more I could write about. I hope that you take this inquiry seriously and will consider all of the submissions. I hope that you will decide to not take the risk and will ban this industry in Victoria.

Yours Sincerely,