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From: Inquiry into Unconventional Gas POV eSubmission Form
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Sent: Wednesday, 8 July 2015 10:33 PM
To: EPC
Subject: New Submission to Inquiry into Unconventional Gas in Victoria.

Inquiry Name: Inquiry into Unconventional Gas in Victoria.

Ms Suzanne Brown
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SUBMISSION CONTENT:

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As a Victorian resident and a parent of young children, I am extremely concerned about the potential for any unconventional gas/fracking to occur in Victoria - I believe we need a permanent ban on all unconventional gas.

A moratorium for a period of time is not good enough - the public needs certainty that unconventional gas (UCG) will be stopped for good. The environmental, health and social risks far outweigh any short term financial gain for mining companies.

The health impacts have been shocking in other regions that have fracking - the chemical poisoning of the water and soil system plus the air pollution lead to numerous illnesses among local people (especially children). The chemicals also find their way into food grown in the area.

The jobs that we already have and which are long term jobs, especially in agriculture and tourism, are more important than short term mining jobs. But tourism and agriculture will be undermined and ruined in some areas if UCG were to go ahead. This is evidenced in Queensland and NSW already, not to mention in the US.

The evidence overseas has shown that there's no way that the risks to farming land and our water resources can be safely managed. The water system (and land system) is interconnected so fracking in one small area can ruin vast tracts of land making it unusable for agriculture or human habitation.

We do not need more natural gas anyway - we have plenty of energy sources from the sun, wind, geothermal and water. The Victorian government needs to secure our safe future by supporting renewable energy rather than the natural gas (fossil fuel) industry. This is how we can cut our state's greenhouse emissions (as well as moving out of coal).

Thank you for your time.