

From: Una Allender [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 10 July 2015 10:10 AM
To: EPC
Subject: submission to UCG enquiry

Submission to Unconventional Gas Enquiry

July 10th 2015

Dear Committee members,

I live in south western Victoria on a family owned farm near Lake Bolac and work as a landcare facilitator in the Upper Hopkins catchment.

I am totally opposed to any form of unconventional gas mining including coal seam gas, tight gas, shale gas & underground coal gasification.

My main concern is the damage that any form of unconventional gas mining, particularly involving fracking, will have on our farming land and the health of our rural communities.

I am concerned that we are risking the long term future of our farming land not only with above ground disturbance and a huge environmental impact, but more particularly by damaging the water table which underpins our farming and food security.

The possibility of short term economic gain is just not worth the likely damage inflicted on agricultural and tourism industries on which Victoria will rely in the long term.

Promoting further investment in fossil fuel industries at this time of climate change is foolish. The future lies with renewable energy. This is where the investment should be made. Unconventional Gas is not the way of the future.

I recommend that Victoria ban all unconventional gas drilling permanently. A total ban will give certainty to existing industries such as agriculture & tourism, making Victoria a more attractive place for investment in these industries. It will also encourage new investment in renewable energy projects. All this will create long term jobs in sustainable industries, rather than short term work in an unsustainable and toxic industry that has the potential to destroy productive farming land and severely damage the health of our environment and our citizens.

Yours sincerely

Una Allender

