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From: Inquiry into Unconventional Gas POV eSubmission Form
<cso@parliament.vic.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 9 July 2015 12:33 PM
To: EPC
Subject: New Submission to Inquiry into Unconventional Gas in Victoria.

Inquiry Name: Inquiry into Unconventional Gas in Victoria.

Mr Daniel Smith
[REDACTED]

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SUBMISSION CONTENT:

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Submission to Inquiry on Unconventional Gas in Victoria

Thank you for the opportunity to inform the Parliamentary Committee about the nature and extent of our opposition to unconventional gas mining. We are property owners in Harmers Haven, Gippsland.

There are a number of reasons that such operations should not take place not only in the Gippsland area but more generally in Australia but by far the most important and most pressing issue for all of us is the anthropogenic impact of CO2 on our environment.

Australia is burdened with an abundance of cheap coal and as such governments of all flavors have taken and are still taking the easy and profitable path over the safety of our planet.

When it comes to "Unconventional Gas" extraction the picture seems the same, Victoria/Australia does not require further gas supplies, we have more supplies than is required for the next 50 or more years and we need to start preparing for the transition to a non-carbon based energy system.

There has been much controversy overseas about the contamination of ground waters, in Australia you would have to say that water is our most important resource. The country suffers from reoccurring droughts which are predicted to increase in intensity and frequency, we need to ensure that quality of this special resource are preserved at the highest level.

There is no way to rectify any pollution of aquifers once it happens. There have already been some incidents else where in Australia of chemical release. In one incident the company failed to report issue for more than year, so even with strong guidelines these failures occur. Aquifers can take thousands of years to replenish.

The proposed unconventional gas extraction fields are over/under some of our very best farming and pastoral lands, Australia has a world renowned reputation for the quality of its food exports. This has taken

decades to develop and should not be jeopardized for short term profits. Farmers should have the right to veto such operations on their land.

Victoria is an extraordinary place, we have traveled extensively around Australia but always come back and marvel at the magnificent tourist opportunity here, we have everything and the Gippsland region is no exception. Tourism is becoming a very important financial asset to Victoria, but tourists don't come to see gas mine heads, and pipes.

Many places around the world are now banning this form of gas extraction and we would wish the Victorian government to do the same. Please consider our views on this matter.

Yours sincerely,
Daniel Smith and Susan Peel

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File2:

File3: