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**From:** Inquiry into Unconventional Gas POV eSubmission Form  
<cso@parliament.vic.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 9 July 2015 1:47 PM  
**To:** EPC  
**Subject:** New Submission to Inquiry into Unconventional Gas in Victoria.

Inquiry Name: Inquiry into Unconventional Gas in Victoria.

Miss Danielle Wilson  
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**SUBMISSION CONTENT:**

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Dear Committee members,

I am Danielle Wilson, a 25 year old living in Fitzroy North, Victoria. I work for a software company in the city and in my spare time invest as much time and money into environmental protection. I have recently learned about the different ways that Australia and the world mines for gas, particularly unconventional gas mining. I am horrified that Australia and Victoria continues to practice unconventional gas mining of any sort. Coal seam gas, tight gas, shale gas & underground coal gasification are all unnecessary and I do not support the ways in which they are mined.

Although I live in the city of Melbourne I am very concerned about the future of areas such as Gippsland and the Surf Coast. These regions produce fruits, vegetables, lamb, beef and milk for the entire country. These areas are considered to be the food basins of Australia and Victoria.

There are many, many communities surveyed in Gippsland and I believe there are about 90+ communities who have declared themselves Coal and Gas free, they are saying that they do not want coal or gas mining happening in their communities. I stand with these communities in Support and will never support unconventional gas mining of any kind regardless of economical gains to be made through these unsavoury manners of extraction.

Victoria is not an ideal place for exports geographically, rather Victoria has strength in it's existing industries such as tourism and agriculture. By banning unconventional gas drilling permanently we will be supporting and encouraging these thriving industries.

Here are some stats from the Victorian Farmers Federation about farming in Victoria:  
In 2012-13, the gross value of food and fibre production in Victoria was \$11.6 billion.  
Over 25 per cent of the nation's farms are situated in Victoria

In 2012-13, Victoria's agricultural industries used a total land area of 10.6 million hectares. Victorian producers are responsible for 24 per cent of the nation's agricultural product. There are approx 35,000 farm establishments in Victoria, with 60-70,000 people's primary source of income coming from a farm."

VFF also give us lots of statistics about the Dairy farming in Victoria:

Victoria produces 6.4 billion litres of milk every year from 1.3 million milk cows. There are more milk cows in Victoria than there are people in Adelaide  
 Victoria is Australia's biggest dairy producing state with almost two thirds of all national dairy production coming out of Victoria.

The Dairy Industry is worth almost one and a half billion dollars annually to the Victorian economy, this equates to an annual dollar figure greater than the entire total cost of Melbourne's CityLink system. The Victorian Dairy industry is the biggest user of the Port of Melbourne, which is Australia's largest and busiest port."

There should not be onshore unconventional gas industry in Victoria as it puts these industries at risk, it puts a large amount of Australia's produce at risk. Unconventional gas risks the prosperity and jobs of those farmers keeping Australia well fed and watered.

Unconventional gas has too many dangers to Victorian Jobs, Australian food and produce and requires too much energy to extract.

Victoria should put it's best foot forward and be a leader in renewable energy, we should add wind farms to our farming industry - not ruin the agricultural industry that Australia relies upon so heavily.

Please consider the environmental risks and health risks to Australians that would be the responsibility of those who didn't stop unconventional gas in Victoria. Please do not allow unconventional gas to become a regretful part of Victoria's history.

Many Thanks for your time,  
 Danielle Wilson

<http://www.depi.vic.gov.au/agriculture-and-food/food-and-fibre-industries/region-overviews/gippsland>  
<http://quitcoal.org.au/poowong-victorias-first-community-to-declare-itself-coal-and-coal-seam-gas-free/>  
<http://quitcoal.org.au/mantle-mining-backs-down-from-organised-communities/>  
<http://quitcoal.org.au/glenelg-council-votes-gasfield-free/>  
<http://quitcoal.org.au/people-meerlieu-say-utes/>  
<http://www.lockthegate.org.au/voices>  
[http://www.vff.org.au/vff/Farming\\_Resources/Facts\\_Statistics.aspx](http://www.vff.org.au/vff/Farming_Resources/Facts_Statistics.aspx)

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