

From: Alistair Hopkins [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 9 July 2015 2:42 PM
To: EPC
Subject: Banning of Coal Seam Gas in Victoria

As residents and rate-payers, and vitally concerned about our environment, we strongly recommend that Victoria places a permanent ban on all unconventional gas drilling, in particular coal seam gas fracking.

Fracking uses hazardous chemicals, many of them carcinogenic, of which it has been found that 20-40% remain underground, where they, together with the methane gas produced, can contaminate drinking water, soil and other parts of the environment that support plant, human and animal life.

There is also a constant danger of gas leaking through the cracks and fractures produced in the underground rock during fracking.

The problem of disposing of the toxic sludge created by fracking is virtually insurmountable.

The introduction of coal seam gas mining would irreparably damage Victoria's agricultural land, leading to unemployment, hardship, and a reduction in food production.

According to Australia's Energy Market Operator, there is no gas shortage in Victoria (or anywhere else in Australia), therefore no need for fracking or other unconventional gas extraction.

The risks to Victoria's crucial farming land, water resources, agricultural industry, and to human health and the environment are unacceptable and unmanageable.

We therefore respectfully urge you to ban coal seam fracking from Victoria.

Barbara and Alistair Hopkins,
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