

**From:** Inquiry into Unconventional Gas POV eSubmission Form  
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**Sent:** Thursday, 9 July 2015 4:49 PM  
**To:** EPC  
**Subject:** New Submission to Inquiry into Unconventional Gas in Victoria.

Inquiry Name: Inquiry into Unconventional Gas in Victoria.

Dr Peter Laird  
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**SUBMISSION CONTENT:**

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The increasing urgency of the need to act on reducing our carbon emissions has changed the immediacy of transitioning from fossil fuels to clean green energy. We need to draw a sharp line between our fossil fuel past and our renewal energy future and work quickly on the complex transition that will need to be implemented.

Coal seam gas, fracking and unconventional gas are all past technologies to extract fossil fuels that we should not use if we want a liveable earth and a viable future..... and who doesn't? Delaying our energy transition by continuing to invest in fossil fuels is foolish with the only winners being short term profits for the developers.

Besides being technologies that produce dirty energy, that is carbon pollution, they have other well documented effects on our environment and our communities.....

\* Undertaking unconventional gas mining on private land destroys agricultural values and communities as can be seen in Queensland.

\* We are going to need to use our water and our soils efficiently and sensitively in the face of farming in a changing harsher climate. Fracking and unconventional gas wells have been proven to affect underground aquifers and have negative impacts on agricultural production. Bequeathing our descendants toxic aquifers and ruined farmlands is criminally irresponsible. Where is our duty of care and sense of responsibility for the health and well-being of those who will come after us ?

\* The renewable technologies that we need to transition to are ready for investment now. Why would we assist investment in dirty technology when a suite of existing renewable technologies are available for installation.

\* Renewable energy projects can and will provide a boost to employment as wind farms, solar farms,

household solar and projects such as wave power are developed, manufactured and installed.

\* Victorian communities have spoken up against unconventional gas and (often very conservative) communities from across the state have spoken against this destructive and polluting industry. It would be fair to say support for this outmoded energy source is low. Why would Victorians embrace an outmoded dirty energy source when we have unlimited wind, solar, and tidal power ?

\* Communities across the world are making a stand against the development of dirty non-renewable energy sources as being retrograde and harmful. Governments who support or allow these industries will be held culpable for irreversible global warming in years to come.

I call on the Victorian Government to show leadership and lead Victoria to a clean energy future which certainly does not include the unconventional gas industry.

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File1:

File2:

File3: