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From: Inquiry into Unconventional Gas POV eSubmission Form
<cso@parliament.vic.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 9 July 2015 10:24 PM
To: EPC
Subject: New Submission to Inquiry into Unconventional Gas in Victoria.

Inquiry Name: Inquiry into Unconventional Gas in Victoria.

Mr David Martin
[REDACTED]

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SUBMISSION CONTENT:

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To Whom It May Concern,

I think Victoria needs a permanent ban on all unconventional gas. I do not see this a sustainable industry in Victoria. In 2015 we should be looking at spending money researching renewable energy sources and investing in the ones we already know work. Victoria needs to transition rapidly to zero net emissions. There is growing evidence of fugitive emissions (ie. leaking) from unconventional gas processes, showing that gas is not as clean as once thought, and there is no time for fossil fuels that are just less dirty. Gas therefore has no place in Victoria's future energy mix. If Victoria is to be considered a leader on climate change, the government cannot allow a new gas industry to be established.

There are many concerns with unconventional gas extraction, a number of these relate to the contamination of ground water. If ground water is contaminated it can effect a large area not just the area where the particular well is located. There's no way that the risks to farming land and our water resources can be safely managed. We saw from the Hazelwood mine fire that regulatory systems can fail, and that failure can lead to environmental and public health disasters. It is not worth the risk. Victoria needs to realise that farmland is much more precious than gas well.

No amount of Victorian gas production will reduce the prices that consumers have to pay. Gas prices have increased because LNG exports from the east coast have linked us to international markets where prices are higher. A Victorian gas industry will not save consumers money. The best solution for consumers to reduce gas bills is through energy efficiency initiatives.

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File1:

File2:

File3: