

9 July 2015

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Submission by:

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Regarding the INQUIRY INTO UNCONVENTIONAL GAS IN VICTORIA

We are residents of [REDACTED] Victoria, and are opposed to further exploration for, or development of onshore unconventional gas in Victoria.

We believe that the risks to the environment, productivity, agricultural industries and public health far outweigh any possible benefits.

We also do not believe that the risks can be managed. There is no safe way to contain toxins released by 'fracking' or the 'fugitive' gases from the gas plants, or to dispose of the waste.

Even if safeguards were established, the State of Victoria does not possess what it takes to rigorously monitor and enforce regulatory safeguards. Governments from both major parties have failed to deliver an effective legislative and regulatory framework to support an anti-corruption body, with the powers and ability to address corruption, commensurate to the New South Wales ICAC.

When the damage is done it will be disastrous and irreversible. Victoria will actually have a competitive advantage if the moratorium is maintained indefinitely. Our produce will be more desirable and investment will be greater.

We hope that your inquiry report recommends against any future exploration and development of onshore unconventional gas.

Thank you.