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From: Inquiry into Unconventional Gas POV eSubmission Form
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Sent: Friday, 10 July 2015 12:46 AM
To: EPC
Subject: New Submission to Inquiry into Unconventional Gas in Victoria.

Inquiry Name: Inquiry into Unconventional Gas in Victoria.

Mrs. Francine Bell
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SUBMISSION CONTENT:

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I am a resident of Hamilton and although I am not a farmer, I come from a farming background. The land here in the Western District of Victoria is some of Australia's finest farming land and should be regarded as one of our country's greatest assets.

It makes me very angry that our government could even consider allowing the unconventional gas mining industry to come here and destroy our prime farming land.

The process of fracking creates irreversible long term pollution of the soil, groundwater and surface water, which is completely unacceptable. There is also atmospheric pollution due to gasses released during the extraction process and as a result of inevitable bore failure. Once our farming land has been polluted, the livelihood of our farming community will be destroyed, not to mention the long term implications for food production in our country. I find it unbelievable that our government is prepared to risk this happening.

Land owners should have the right to protect their own property and their livelihoods from being destroyed in this manner. Our government ought to be protecting our farmers but unfortunately it seems to be doing the opposite!

Our local community will not benefit financially from unconventional gas mining, the only real benefit is to the large mining companies whose main aim is to make massive profits for themselves. Any possible short term economic gains for our community will be far outweighed by the long term problems associated with pollution of our prime farming land.

The unconventional gas industry does not have social license to operate in our region, already over 60 communities across southern Victoria are declaring themselves 'Gasfield Free'. I am not prepared to support a government who does not protect our community from unconventional gas mining.

PS I strongly believe that our government should be investing in the research and development of renewable energy. Clean energy is the way of the future and we seriously ought to be looking at phasing out the use of fossil fuels.

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File1:

File2:

File3: