

Mrs Lee Gladwell

SUBMISSION CONTENT:

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MPs have a duty of care to protect Victoria's liveability, beauty, accessibility and "clean, green" agriculture.

We have very high unemployment, but it won't be solved by fracking, which employs very few people and certainly not locals.

We must have food security. We cannot rely on imports. Polluted land and aquifers cannot produce food and farmers/other workers cannot earn a living. Downstream industries and jobs cannot survive. The result would be massive and permanent unemployment.

The red Italics constitute claims by frackers.

Health

- “a long-term study has shown people living in gas fields, were healthier than the average population”

How could breathing pollution be healthy? Who undertook this “long term study”? Was it paid for by the frackers?

Water

- “Natural gas developed from coal seams is predominantly methane and contains no toxic poisonous ingredients that can be absorbed into the blood when inhaled. Being lighter than air if it escapes into the atmosphere, it dissipates rapidly”.

In September 2008, the CFA warned residents of Brookland Greens housing estate that a landfill methane leak was potentially explosive. Are we expected to believe that vested-interest information is better than that of the CFA?

- “USA EPA Administrator, Lisa Jackson, has stated under oath that she was not aware of any proven case where fracking has contaminated an aquifer, despite there being 2.5 million wells worldwide”

Has she actively sought proof? Have claims been tested in court? Just because adverse effects are not “proven”, does not mean they don’t exist.

- “Independent Australian studies have shown CSG activity would have little impact on underground water supplies”.

When and by whom were the studies undertaken? ABC’s Four Corners and Australian Story begged to differ and they have no vested interests.

Financial Implications

- “There has been no real estate market collapse in Australia caused by CSG activity”.

In country areas real estate values are always fragile and the mere suggestion of damage is enough to cause plummeting prices and unsaleable houses.

Drilling occurs horizontally as well as vertically. If our homes were damaged, our insurance companies would probably walk.

Is the State prepared for a compensation class action from millions of residents?

Noise and Inconvenience

- “The drilling process typically takes one or two weeks, and once completed the noise goes away. The drilling is loud and there is more traffic during this time, but this is a price to pay for job creation, developing infrastructure and economic growth”.

What job creation? What infrastructure? What economic growth?

If gas is found, drilling would take a lot longer than a couple of weeks.

People’s lives would be disrupted by noise, lighting and insomnia, journeys to work, school and shopping become intolerable and, in the case of driving while tired, dangerous!

Renewables

Why even consider a polluting, dangerous, unproven wasteful, destructive UNNECESSARY technology when we can produce renewable power cheaper, cleaner, environmentally risk free and with the added bonus of job creation for installation and ongoing maintenance?

Bonds

- If the land reparation bonds are not enough, who would fund the balance?
- Who would oversee reparation?
- Frackers may find it cheaper to lose their bonds than do reparation. Since they do not live here, would they care?

Summary

- Foreign companies are not entitled to plunder our resources;;
- Victorians would suffer all the disadvantages and gas would be sold overseas;
- There would be NO JOBS FOR LOCALS;

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File1:

File2:

File3: