

REC. 10 JULY 2015

Submission 603



To: Environment and Planning Reference Committee

Dear Committee Members,

My name is Edwin W.P. Jones and I farm in the South West of Victoria from Nelson, Drik Drik, Dartmoor and Mumbannar through to Strathdownie.

On these farms we produce sheep, cattle and timber. Some of these farms have been in the Jones' name since selection in the mid to late 1800's. I am part of the continuing 4th generation and am at present seeing the 5th generation taking over, so you can see that it is only natural that I am concerned about this unconventional gas mining as we are situated on one of the most valuable assets that we have; that is underground water known as the Great Artesian Basin. To put this at risk is **unthinkable**.

We are not only the food bowl for Australia, but Australia is fast being recognised as the food bowl for the world.

Why do you think that China is buying prime agricultural land?

As farmers, we are restricted as to what chemicals we can use on top of the ground. Why then can mining companies and government justify pouring tonne's of poisonous chemicals into our underground water?

UNCONVENTIONAL GAS MINING IS CRIMINAL!

Regards,

E.W.P. Jones