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From: Inquiry into Unconventional Gas POV eSubmission Form
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Sent: Friday, 10 July 2015 12:37 PM
To: EPC
Subject: New Submission to Inquiry into Unconventional Gas in Victoria.

Inquiry Name: Inquiry into Unconventional Gas in Victoria.

Ms Jill Polson
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SUBMISSION CONTENT:

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My submission is as follows.

There are two major issues against the mining 'unconventional gas' including coal seam gas, tight gas. They are the risks involved and the alternatives which would offer better more sustainable energy.

Australia should be in the for-front of developing and producing solar energy. Our weather, the amount of sun we have means solar energy is a no brainier. We live in Reservoir. My partner is no greenie but he has built a soda can furnace which uses the energy from the sun and has generated up to 60 degrees heat in winter. Versions of this are used in Europe and USA as an alternative heat source. This is the future of energy and Australia should be exploiting this resource if it wants to keep-up with other countries economically that are way ahead of Australia when it comes to developing and utalising the sun. There really are no potential benefits of onshore unconventional gas as an energy source when compared to developing and exploiting solar energy, all we are doing is lay wasting valuable land.

The second issue is the potential risks involved and whether such risks can be managed. The fire in the open cut mine in Morewell and the resulting issues answer this question. We cannot rely on any company to 'do the right thing' and even when they are bond by law to pay-up they just refuse. All that happens is the community and government end up paying the both the economic and environmental costs.

Both my partner and I fresh-water fish, along with thousands of voters across Victoria. We have studied the result of coal seam gas etc on the waterways of the surrounding areas in both Australia and other countries, which have mined coal seam gas and the effect is devastating. Fresh water is one commodity we need to ensure remains pure particularly in Australia where the impacts from long dry summers and winters can be devastating. Any risk is too great.

Yours sincerely
Jill Polson

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