

My name is Jo Southern. I am a retired secondary teacher and I live on a 10 acre bush block between Kongwak and Wonthaggi in Victoria.

I am totally opposed to all forms of unconventional gas drilling. Farmland and areas of food production or natural beauty should not be mined or explored for gas mining.

Experience in the USA and elsewhere in Australia has shown that contamination of aquifers, the release of toxic gases and degradation of farmland are the results of so-called harmless drilling. It is a myth that the profits will stay in Australia and result in lower energy prices for the average person. Energy from renewable sources must be pursued vigorously and immediately as is the case in places like Germany.

Australia must preserve its natural heritage for future generations. I urge the government to ban all unconventional gas drilling forever!

Respectfully,

Jo Southern

