

From: Inquiry into Unconventional Gas POV eSubmission Form
<cso@parliament.vic.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 10 July 2015 1:08 PM
To: EPC
Subject: New Submission to Inquiry into Unconventional Gas in Victoria.
Attachments: 559f372419204-signed.pdf

Inquiry Name: Inquiry into Unconventional Gas in Victoria.

Mr James McNulty

SUBMISSION CONTENT:

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The Shire of Campaspe welcomes the opportunity to make a submission to the Inquiry into Unconventional Gas in Victoria.

The Shire of Campaspe is situated within the Murray, Campaspe and Goulburn Valleys and within the Murray Darling Basin. Recognising the interconnectedness of the hydrogeology of its environment, Council has strong interest in your inquiry.

Council acknowledges that this is an extremely complex matter. Australia has vast resources of unconventional gas including coal seam gas, shale gas, and tight gas. The gas is found in complex geological systems and can be difficult to produce, requiring a range of technological solutions for extraction. These solutions can have a range of short and long term consequences for communities.

The Shire of Campaspe is a vibrant rural community in northern Victoria and is located at the heart of one of the richest and most diverse agriculture and food processing regions in Australia. Agriculture and related manufacturing are the most important sectors of our economy. Council has therefore consistently maintained a strong position of protection of viable agricultural land. These industries are reliant on access to irrigation and potable water. Council therefore places significant importance on protecting this resource.

Tourism also plays a major part in the economy of this region with the Murray River being the major draw card. Its protection adds to Council's concern in relation to this inquiry.

Council's position in relation to this issue is that:

- ♣ Exploration and development for unconventional gas must not impact upon water quality and subsequently our agricultural, manufacturing or tourism sectors.
- ♣ The approval process for such activities must be clearly established and consistently applied.

- ♣ Monitoring and measurement of land and water quality must be established prior to approval for either exploration or development with sufficient rigour that government and communities can have a high level of confidence in decision-making.
- ♣ Communities need to be made aware of the potential impacts (positive or negative) and be provided an opportunity to participate in the approval process so that their views and knowledge can be considered and issues addressed.

We trust that this submission will aid the inquiry and would welcome an opportunity to expand upon any matter herein. Should you have any queries in relation to any of these matters please do not hesitate to contact James McNulty, Acting Strategic Planning Manager [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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File1: [559f372419204-signed.pdf](#)

File2:

File3:

JMN

10 July 2015

The Secretary
Environment and Planning Committee
Legislative Council Parliament House
Spring Street
Melbourne VIC 3002

Dear Mr Delaney

Re: *Inquiry into Unconventional Gas in Victoria*

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Yours faithfully

[REDACTED]
**Cr. LEIGH WILSON
MAYOR**