

To the Environment and Planning Committee,

I am the mother of a 5 year old boy, we live in Mirboo North in victoria. The majority of the community approx 96% do not want CSG or any new coal .

We produce a huge amount of food for victoria, from potato's ( heard of thorpdale spuds?) snow peas, beef , lamb and more , plus a massive dairy industry that exports to the world. We also have a growing organic producer sector. These communitis surrounding these farms depend on them, We have great communities, i ask you to google Mirboo North, look at our fabulous community, look up our arty gras festival , its a fabulous time. We have kinders, primary schools, a fantastic secondary college, supermarket , butchers and great retailers. All of this depends on our clean green image.

I think in horror about what would happen to us all if CSG came to town. i really do. have a lock the gate sign on my gate, we live in town, on the edge, we have a coal mine licence over us! 2 blocks from the main street! how can that be.

so We dont want any CSG industry! god help us, imagine that, CSG and coal. what kind of hell would that be, we need a big NO from spring street.

Protect our food and water supply, there really is nothing more important in the world. Stand out from the crowd. Support you small communities , the ones that put food on your plate. An we will feed you for many years to come. Pollute our soils and water and what will we do? import our food, dairy and water from china? no thanks.

NO CSG!

and to follow on from my letter is this fine letter.

We have fantastic wind and potential for hydro energy locally.

- We don't need an unconventional gas industry in Victoria to supply energy. Unconventional gas is not a renewable source of energy - it is polluting, contributes to climate change, and is not required as a fuel to transition between fossil fuels and renewables. We can make a planned transition to 100% renewables in Victoria without the need for gas as a 'bridging' fuel, but we need to start investing in real renewables like solar and wind power now.
- We don't need an unconventional gas industry in Victoria to provide employment. Supporting and growing our renewables industry will provide more jobs that are future-proofed and lead to greater long-term employment growth in Victoria. Growth in our renewables industry provides a valuable opportunity for re-skilling and redeploying workers who need help to transition from traditional energy production roles – there are now more people employed installing solar panels in Victoria than in coal generation.

- Other jurisdictions like New York City and Ohio have already instituted permanent bans on coal seam gas, and Victoria should follow suit, as this is what the community wants.
- Coal seam gas carries massive and proven risks for the environment and health. It threatens our environment, land productivity, agricultural industries, our water supply, our communities and public health, and the risks are far too great to be mitigated or outweighed by any benefits.
- Victorian communities don't want unconventional gas. At least 30 communities have already declared themselves gasfield-free, and the number continues to grow. The Government needs to respect the wishes of Victorian communities.

yours Truly

Caroline, Adam and thomas Cox

**Caroline Cox**

