

To the Environment and Planning Committee,

I am concerned about the impact of fracking/unconventional gas on Victoria's precious clean water supplies and quality farmland. Both of these resources are fragile and have diminished during my lifetime due to a variety of human impacts, especially in areas I am very familiar with such as the Ararat/ Grampians region. Climate change is predicted by scientists to exaggerate the scarcity of both pure water and land appropriate for farming in Victoria . It would be rash to threaten these two resources, necessary for any kind of quality of life. Unconventional gas has a negative history for its impact on land and water quality, both in Australia and the USA.

The income earned from unconventional gas is short term while impacts will be long term; both locally (as pollution, salt contamination and damage to aquifers) and globally. Long term global impacts include through releasing methane and carbon into the atmosphere and worsening climate change. Investment and job creation would be better directed elsewhere into the renewable energy sector.

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.

Sincerely,

Danny Diesendorf

**Daniel Diesendorf**

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