

To the Environment and Planning Committee,

I wish to express my strong reservations about the safety of coal seam gas. I believe the Government must put a stop to the planned use of this and other forms of unconventional gas in Victoria for the following reasons.

Most importantly, unconventional gas is not a renewable source of energy. With much of the rest of the world now accepting the dangers of not responding appropriately to climate change, it's imperative for Victoria to plan for 100% transition to renewables. Coal seam gas and other forms of unconventional gas are pollutants and will contribute to climate change, not assist in its abatement.

Also, It would be grossly wrong to proceed knowing coal seam gas presents a proven risk to health and the environment and especially to our precious water supply.

The employment argument that is sometimes raised should not be an issue. With proper investment in renewables, at least as many jobs can be created in clean energy alternatives than in this unnecessary, unhealthy, polluting energy source.

There are other jurisdictions in the world that have accepted the dangers and banned coal seam gas as a source of energy and I believe it's time Victoria joined those jurisdictions.

Ian Robinson

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