

To the Environment and Planning Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a submission to this inquiry.

I believe that there are proven risks in mining coal seam and shale gas, to the water resources of rural communities and to agriculture. In addition to the known risks, the full risks to public health and to agriculture are unknown. I understand that there are strong pressures for these forms of mining to be approved. However I believe that the health and economic risks to present and future communities are too great.

Victoria has abundant potential to move quickly towards renewable energy sources, which would in turn lead to economic growth and employment growth. Victoria can be a leader in developing clean energy in Australia.

Thank you

Yours sincerely

John Nihill

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