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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 30 June 2015 5:03 PM
To: EPC
Subject: Submission to the Environment & Planning Committee Inquiry into Unconventional Gas in Victoria

To the Environment and Planning Committee,

- I live in Torquay and apparently there are proposed CSG options all along the Surf Coast. The community are overwhelmingly opposed to this and any attempts to allow CSG and Fracking will be fought fiercely. It is hard to believe we would willingly risk our water supplies and farms for such short term profit. We should be investing in renewable energy options
- 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. Also many countries in Europe have a moratorium in place and France has I believe now banned CSG and fracking.
- 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.

Marian Smedley

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