

RECEIVED 8 JULY 2015



4 July 2015

Keir Delaney, Secretary  
Environment & Planning Committee  
Parliament House  
Spring Street  
Melbourne. 3002

SUBMISSION to the Victorian Legislative Council's Environment and Planning Committee inquiry into whether or not there should be an onshore unconventional gas industry in Victoria.

Dear Planning & Environment Committee,

I am very concerned about the current threat to the environment and to food security that is posed by the exploration and exploitation of coal and coal seam gas in Gippsland. At a time when the world population is increasing at an alarming rate, fresh water reserves are being depleted at an unsustainable rate, and the effects of climate change are seen to hamper reliable food production, it seems absurd to even consider degrading an area of such importance to food production.

Unfortunately governments can no longer be relied upon to do what is best for communities in the present, or in planning for future sustainability. Unless we stop our reliance on non-renewables and start making plans for future food security, the existence of humans on earth will become increasingly fragile. Rural communities in Victoria are making it clear that they want governments to act to safeguard the environment. You, as committee members, have the power to make positive change and not become mere puppets for big business interests.

I wholeheartedly oppose any development of coal seam gas industries in Victoria. Please do not risk our children's future for such short term gain for a very few people.

Yours sincerely,

