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**From:** Lyn Hovey [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, 10 July 2015 4:11 PM  
**To:** EPC  
**Subject:** unconventional gas mining

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Dear public inquiry into unconventional gas mining,  
I do not support any form of unconventional gas mining including coal seam gas, tight gas, shale gas & underground coal gasification as I believe our future energy needs should be met by renewable energy sources.

Why would we put at risk - water, farmland, community health, food security, environment and jobs in other sectors such as agriculture & tourism for little or no financial gain?

The experiences of farmers and land owners in the US and Queensland shows that the environment and productive farming land cannot co-exist with csg. The day to day management of a farm cannot co-exist with the building of infrastructure required for gas wells, such as all weather access roads, cleared well pads, compression stations, and evaporation dams.

I have particular concern for implications for local and regional development, investment and jobs. The destruction of farmland is incredibly short sighted as the need to grow more food to feed the increasing population is evident. Wind turbines can successfully co-exist with the operation of farming activities. Farmland which retains its rural integrity has tourism potential as well as its food bowl status.

In addressing point 4-

4. the ability of potential onshore unconventional gas resources contributing to the State's overall energy sources including —.

- (a) an ability to provide a competitive source of energy and non energy inputs for Victorian industries;
- (b) an affordable energy source for domestic consumers;

If government subsidies were withdrawn from fossil fuel production, renewables would compete on a level playing field. Solar is already favourably competitive with coal. The notion of an affordable energy source needs to take account of what toll it creates on the planet.

On point 5 -

5. the resource knowledge requirements and policy and regulatory safeguards that would be necessary to enable exploration and development of onshore unconventional gas resources, including — this industry, regardless of regulation, has failed to be proven safe elsewhere. It has had a long time to prove that their practices are safe and yet have been unable to do so.

Governments need to listen to the people who have spoken loudly by putting many kW's of capacity of electricity on their roofs.

Yours Sincerely

Lyn Hovey