

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [ramsar](#)  
**Subject:** Protect the wetlands of Westernport from AGL's proposed gas terminal  
**Date:** Monday, 25 November 2019 3:50:47 PM

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Dear Committee Members,

The 2016 Victorian Auditor General's report "Meeting Obligations to Protect Ramsar Wetlands" raised some key deficiencies, and I'm pleased to see the Parliament following up to review the Government's response.

Wetlands play a vital role in the functioning of global ecosystems, from migratory bird and fish breeding to storing carbon from the atmosphere. Victoria is blessed to have diverse wetland environments, all with unique characteristics, plants, animals, fish and insects.

While I look forward to following the work of this committee with regard to all Ramsar wetlands in our beautiful state, I'm writing to make a submission focused on the wetlands in Westernport Bay.

I am deeply concerned by the current AGL proposal to bring a Floating Storage and Regasification ship to Westernport Bay. I feel this ship presents a real threat to Westernport's fragile mangrove ecosystem. This is the most southerly mangrove system in the world and is home to threatened migratory birds.

I personally knew one of the scientists involved in protecting Westernport for the significant habitat that it is. I encourage you also to recognise the area for its ecological heritage and importance.

I look forward to great outcomes for our wetlands as a result of this inquiry.

Kind regards

Yours sincerely,  
Helena Woolums

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Please reply to Helena Woolums at [REDACTED]

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