

CORRECTED VERSION

STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING

Inquiry into unconventional gas in Victoria

Hamilton — 23 September 2015

Members

Mr David Davis — Chair

Ms Samantha Dunn

Ms Harriet Shing — Deputy Chair

Mr Shaun Leane

Ms Melina Bath

Mr Adem Somyurek

Mr Richard Dalla-Riva

Mr Daniel Young

Participating Members

Mr Jeff Bourman

Mr James Purcell

Ms Colleen Hartland

Mr Simon Ramsay

Staff

Secretary: Mr Keir Delaney

Research assistants: Ms Annemarie Burt and Ms Kim Martinow

Witness

Mr Andrew Pettingill.

Mr PETTINGILL — I would like to thank the committee for their attentiveness to this matter. I will try not to use my 2 minutes up.

The CHAIR — You had better give us your name and address.

Mr PETTINGILL — Andrew Pettingill from Gorae West, near Portland. I am a small farmer. I have the great displeasure of having the Alcoa line through my property. To imagine the level of hygiene which has totally been ignored makes me angry every time I think of it. Another matter which I would like you to consider is the statement in Lakes Oil's prospectus which acknowledges its inability to be able to assess the potential ecological damage which may occur if fracking were to go ahead. That is about it. Thank you.

The CHAIR — Thank you, sir.

Mr PETTINGILL — If I were to sell my farm, there are various declarations that I am obliged to make under section 32. Am I obliged to acknowledge a PEP over that farm?

The CHAIR — I am not sure of the answer to that, but we will seek some legal advice on it.

Mr PETTINGILL — I am guessing that no-one ever declares it. I am guessing that, according to my advice, they are obliged to do that. I am not looking for an answer, but I wish you to look at that. Thank you.

The CHAIR — I thank the witnesses we have had today. We have had a long list of witnesses. I want to also thank the audience. There have been a lot of people here, and we are respectful of that. We thank people for their attendance. I want to thank Hansard because it is not easy, some of that interruption of sound. I thank Keir and the secretariat for their support today. I also want to note that Emma Kealy, the local member, is still here. She has been here all day, and we are thankful for that too. I thank the Southern Grampians Shire Council and the municipality for its support today too. Thank you very much.

Committee adjourned.