

Environment and Public Affairs Committee

From: David and Joan Cook
Sent: Friday, 20 September 2013 9:36 AM
To: Environment and Public Affairs Committee
Subject: hydraulic fracturing in the mid west region

Dear Committee Members,

I wish to express my deep concern for the proposed gas mining in our states agricultural regions. We are organic beef producers and any contamination of soil or water would see our land de-certified and would render our product as unsaleable.

We rely entirely on groundwater reserves for our stock. Surface runoff and dams are no longer a viable source because of our drying climate which our records show has dried by over 30% in the last 100 years. Without an uncontaminated water source our land which has been farmed for around 150 years would be valueless for food production.

My understanding is that contamination can not be entirely eliminated as a risk to groundwater aquifers and therefore this process should not be considered for short term gain.

Please consider the long term effects of any decisions you make bearing in mind that future generations will be valuing food production and food integrity much higher than is now the case.

David Cook

David and Joan Cook

