

I own and maintain 70 acres of vulnerable lowland indigenous bush within the catchment of Westernport Bay. We are re-wilding the land and have Trust For Nature covenant areas of ecosystem protection. We have planted, maintained and continue to set more land aside for preservation. Melbourne Water, LandCare and others have invested heavily in cash, time and labour. This is private cost for Ecosystem value.

APA and AGL directly undermine our efforts and show contempt for the work going on within the catchments of Westernport. We have planted out our waterways to clean the water into the bay and the proposed project is like shitting on our front door.

I say to you CEO's, boards and shareholders, why should individuals make the conservation effort when rent seekers like yourselves are degrading our efforts, community good will and restoration efforts?

Talk of corporate responsibility is demonstrably false and your legacy is tarnished. If you have children you need to look them in the eye and tell them the whole story; sorry kids, the money was more important than your future.

The premise of a forecast regional gas shortfall is false until alternatives in consumer behavior, renewables and waste are addressed. Even then, renewables can come on line in time if demand is demonstrated and fossil subsidies were re-directed.

We must keep our sovereign reserves in sufficient supply to support citizen use. Sale to foreign nations by significantly foreign owned corporates doubles loss of value to Australian citizens.

We have witnessed over investment , with taxpayer subsidies, in the past for electricity at the expense of renewable capability building.

Building infrastructure for imports to local supply should be spent, if essential on connecting remote land sites rather than further disrupting marine and vulnerable land systems.

There is no social or environmental cost considerations worth the compromised price of fossil infrastructure growth.

This plan defies logic and is an affront to the sensibilities of future sustainability initiatives.

It does not address risks adequately and has no social license.

It creates increased liabilities at the very time we are pursuing net zero targets.

I strongly oppose the proposed project and demand longitudinal accountability of those decision makers should the negligent proposal proceed.