

Latest Reports

Annual Reports

Annual Plan

Strategic Plan

Better practice guides

Key Audit Themes

Newsletter

150 Year History of VAGO

Presentations

Subscription Service

You are here: [VAGO](#) | [Reports and Publications](#) | Latest Reports

Unconventional Gas: Managing Risks and Impacts

Tabled: 19 August 2015

Unconventional gas is a collective term for three natural gas sources found within different rock layers in the earth's crust, known as coal seam, tight and shale gas. Between 2000 and 2012 there was some exploration for unconventional gas but no commercial discoveries. In 2012, the government placed a moratorium on coal seam gas exploration—later expanded to all onshore gas.

This audit examined whether Victoria is well placed to effectively respond to the potential environmental and community risks and impacts of onshore unconventional gas activities in the event that these proceed in this state.

Victoria is not as well placed as it could be to respond to the risks and impacts that could arise if the moratorium is lifted, allowing unconventional gas activities to proceed. The Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport & Resources (DEDJTR) did not sufficiently assess the risks or effective regulation of these activities prior to 2012, although it has made progress on this since then.

The infancy of the industry and the moratorium provide an ideal opportunity for the government to evaluate the full range of potential risks and impacts of unconventional gas. There is key work that DEDJTR needs to do to inform the government about risks, before the moratorium is reviewed. It will also need to better regulate unconventional gas development, should the government allow it to proceed, supported where necessary by the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning. DEDJTR can also improve its earth resources regulation more generally.

VAGO - Unconventional Gas: Managing Risks a...  



Access the Report

[Full report as HTML](#)

[Full report as PDF](#)  (2.8 MB)

[PDF of the presentation](#)

Audit team

Dallas Mischkulnig

Engagement Leader

Maree Bethel

Team Leader

Catherine Sandercock

Katrina Castles

Christina Bagot

Analysts

Engagement Quality Control

Reviewer

Kristopher Waring



.....
Last updated on 2/17/2016