





Inquiry into Unconventional Gas (Fracking)
 Submission from the South Australian Government
 January 2015

Figure 1: Petroleum accumulations in conventional and unconventional reservoirs. Petroleum accumulations in unconventional reservoirs include oil and gas in shales, siltstones, tight sandstones, shallow coal seams and deep coal seams. Shales that are both source rocks and unconventional reservoir targets are sometimes referred to as self-sourcing reservoirs.

⁷ There is nothing unconventional about the production and use of natural gas (that is largely methane gas). Indeed, the term 'unconventional gas' can be misleading. It is more appropriate to describe shale gas, tight gas and coal seam gas as natural gas in relatively low permeability reservoirs that include shales, siltstones, sandstones, carbonates and coals.