

New South Wales Government

Department of Planning

[Skip to content](#)

[Home](#) > [Development Assessments](#) > [Major Project Assessments](#)

Armidale Action on Coal Seam Gas & Mining, Uralla NSW, made the following submission on the project:

Narrabri Gas Project



Objects to this project

Armidale Action on Coal Seam Gas and Mining
Uralla 2358
19/5/17

Att: Executive Director, Resource Assessments
Dept of Planning and Environment
GPO Box 39
Sydney 2001

This is a submission to the Narrabri Gas EIS

We object to this project

Armidale Action on Coal Seam Gas and Mining is asking PAC to ensure the Pilliga Forest, the largest remaining temperate woodland in eastern Australia is protected for future generations.

http://majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au/index.pl?action=view_job&job_id=6456

We are concerned that there is no such thing as a coal seam gas well that does not eventually leak, this has been proven in the USA.

US EPA investigation of water contamination in 23 drinking water wells near a natural gas extraction site in Wyoming concluded that both inorganic and organic compounds associated with hydraulic fracturing have contaminated the aquifer at or below the depths used for domestic water supply in the Pavillion area.

A number of synthetic organic compounds were detected including BTEX and isopropanol (biocide, surfactant, used in breakers, in foaming agents), diethylene glycol (foaming agent), triethylene glycol (solvent), tert-butyl alcohol (known breakdown product of methyl tert-butyl ether (fuel additive) and tert-butyl hydroperoxide (gel breaker used in hydraulic fracturing) plus diesel and gasoline organics.

The detections of organic chemicals were more numerous and at higher concentrations in the deeper of the monitoring wells. Detection of high concentrations of benzene, xylenes, gasoline range organics, diesel range organics, and total purgeable hydrocarbons in ground water samples from hallow monitoring wells near pits indicated that they a source of shallow ground water contamination. The report also found that elevated levels of dissolved methane in domestic wells generally increase in those wells in closer proximity to gas production wells.

(http://www.ntn.org.au/wp/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/UCgas_report-April-

2013.pdf)

Santos have already contaminated at least one aquifer in the Pilliga Forest, and nothing in the EIS convinces our group that there will not be more spills and aquifer connectivity. All concrete eventually fails, especially in a heavily saline environment. The risk to The Great Artesian basin is too great. This valuable ground water must be protected.

We ask that you reject the Narrabri Gas project.

Yours sincerely

Michael Forester

Armidale Action on Coal Seam Gas and Mining