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## **Evans Head Residents for Sustainable Development Inc. , Evans Head NSW, made the following submission on the project:**

### **Narrabri Gas Project**

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#### **Objects to this project**

Objection: Narrabri Coal Seam Gas Project (SSD 6456)

We object to the proposed Narrabri CSG Project for the following reasons:

1. The project will damage the biological integrity of the largest remaining temperate woodland in Australia. The Pilliga is home to many plant and animal species, a significant number of them rare and threatened.
2. Development infrastructure will fragment and degrade the Pilliga. Intersecting roads, pipelines, water extraction infrastructure, wells, fracking and other chemical agents, work site compounds, etc., cannot help but fragment this complex set of ecological systems. We depend on the integrity of the Pilliga for the maintenance of a range of ecological and related economic services for the greater community.
3. Aquifers for the Great Artesian Basin are located in the Pilliga. They must be protected but won't be if fracking occurs. The Great Artesian Basin could easily be compromised with dire consequences for the substantial agricultural sector which is Central West NSW. Disturbance of ground water has potential multiplicative effects including effects on the regional economy if CSG pursuit is allowed.
4. The naturally dark night sky will be compromised with light pollution from CSG infrastructure potentially affecting the nearby Siding Springs Observatory.
5. It fails to meet the basic principles of Ecological Sustainable Development, in particular, the Principle of Intergeneration Equity and the Precautionary Principle. The legacy left behind from this proposal for future generations is poor and the Precautionary Principle seems to have been ignored completely. The proposal will damage the environment both now and for future generations.

The CSG industry has a track record of not effectively rehabilitating extensive areas it has mined, across NSW and Queensland. We have seen the evidence. It cannot be ignored. We request that the NSW Department of Planning and Environment recommends refusal of development consent of the Pilliga project.

Yours sincerely

Dr Richard Gates

For EHRSDI