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## **Friends of the Koalas Inc., Cowes VIC, made the following submission on the project:**

### **[Narrabri Gas Project](#)**

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

At a recent meeting of Friends of the Koalas it was resolved to lodge an objection to the Narrabri Gas Project on the grounds of its substantial impact on the koala and the other threatened species in the Pilliga forest.

Our organisation's main aim is the preservation of koalas, specifically on Phillip Island, but we do make comment on proposals which are detrimental to the survival of the species as a whole.

The Pilliga is currently the largest intact woodland in eastern Australia and therefore is of vital importance to the population of koalas at that location. The koala is now a highly threatened species in serious decline through its range. The main reason for this is the continuing loss of habitat. Fragmentation of habitat is a recognised threatening process. The Santos proposal for 850 CSG wells and associated infrastructure WILL lead to the fragmentation of habitat - a highly undesirable outcome for koalas and other wildlife.

A great killer of koalas is stress. In intact habitats the species can survive. In fragmented habitat with an industrial complex stress will inevitably result in deaths.

Our group is based in Victoria where the state government has correctly banned proposals such as that by Santos.

The preservation of the genetically important koala population in the Pilliga is essential if the species is to survive Australia-wide.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment and we urge you to take our genuine national concerns into consideration.

Yours sincerely

Patricia Hunt, President Friends of the Koalas Inc.