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## **Lismore Community Sustainability Forum, Lismore NSW, made the following submission on the project:**

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

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

The Lismore Community Sustainability Forum stands with the nearly 100 communities in the Pilliga region in expressing our strong opposition to the Narrabri Gas Project. The development of CSG in the Pilliga threatens human health, animal habitat, increased bushfire risk, the viability of the Siding Springs Observatory, and most importantly, Australia's major water supply, all the while significantly contributing to on-going climate change.

Community surveys have shown that on average, 96% of the people here do not want CSG mining in the Pilliga. The Gamilaraay Traditional Custodians of the area, also opposed to the project, have participated in many protest actions. They have been joined hundreds of farmers, who recognise the threat this industry poses not only to their livelihoods, but to an invaluable Australian water resource--the Great Artesian Basin.

Santos has already contaminated a freshwater aquifer in the Pilliga with uranium (at levels 20 times higher than safe drinking water guidelines) as well as lead, aluminium, arsenic and barium. There have also been more than 20 reported spills and leaks of toxic CSG water from storage ponds, pipes and well heads--demonstrating over and over again that Santos cannot be trusted with something as precious as Australia's most important water resource!

Santos also has no solution for disposing of the hundreds of thousands of tonnes of salt that will be produced!! The Narrabri Gas Project will leave a toxic legacy in NSW for our children and grandchildren to clean up--if they can.

And for what? To produce more coal seam gas for export? To line the pockets of more overseas investors? The project is totally unnecessary for Australia's energy needs, which can be more than adequately met by the reserves in the Bass Strait.

Finally, we are opposed to this project because of its impact on climate change. Coal seam gas extraction is touted as a 'green' alternative to coal, which will help alleviate carbon emissions. But the truth is that during the production, transport, processing and use of coal seam gas, the leakage of methane (a greenhouse gas 70 times more powerful than carbon dioxide) contributes to climate change just as much as coal.

For all of these reasons, the Lismore Community Sustainability Forum urges you to reject Narrabri Gas Project proposed by Santos.

Sincerely,  
Lismore Community Sustainability Forum, Inc.