

Sue Mathewsreplied by email to **Stephen O'Donoghue**

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Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

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Content:

The Mullum Trust is a philanthropic foundation that supports projects aiming to improve the health of the Australian environment.

We are extremely concerned at the risks that are posed by the proposed Narrabri Gas Project in the Piliga. There are a number of areas of concern:

* The impact of the gas mining on the Great Artesian Basin, through the leakage of dangerous chemicals into this critical source of water for the agriculture that supports the population of eastern Australia, as well as a significant export market. Hydrological experts have informed us that knowledge about the behaviour of ground water is still very limited, and there are many questions that could have catastrophic consequences if not fully answered. The science MUST be further developed before we can have confidence that the impacts will be manageable. And that science MUST be independent of commercial interests in exploiting the resource.

* The impact of diverting water resources from the local wetlands and farming communities that rely on them.

* The impact of fugitive emissions from the CSG mining process on our climate. It is of vital importance that Australia meets its Paris targets, and that the world's temperature increase remains below 2 degrees celsius. The methane and other gases that routinely escape from unconventional gas mining are far more damaging than CO2, and independent monitoring has not shown that they can be avoided.

These risks are very significant: the financial, social and environmental cost of making the wrong bet could be unimaginably massive. The responsibility of government to protect our community and our environment demands much greater scientific understanding of these impacts than is currently available. Until we have that, the prudential principle requires a halt to this

development.

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Submission: Online Submission from Sue Mathews of The Mullum Trust (object)

https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_activity&id=201224

Submission for Job: #6456 Narrabri Gas Project

https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_job&id=6456

Site: #2926 Narrabri Gasfield

https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/?action=view_site&id=2926