

Steve O'Donoghue

From: system@acelo.com on behalf of Cliff Wallace <wandocc@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, 18 May 2017 7:56 AM
To: Steve O'Donoghue
Subject: Submission Details for company Wando Conservation and Cultural Centre (org_object)

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Cliff Wallace
Organisation: Wando Conservation and Cultural Centre (Patron)
Govt. Agency: No
Email: wandocc@gmail.com

Address:
Wando

Maules Creek, NSW
2382

Content:
Wando Conservation and Cultural Centre
Wando
Maules Creek 2382

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

This is a submission to the Narrabri Gas EIS
This submission opposes the development of the Narrabri coal seam gas project

There are many reasons why this project should not be approved by the Planning and Assessment Commission. Our Group are most concerned about ground water, as this may damage our ground water locally. Maules Creek is less than 30 km from the Narrabri gas field.

A large number of residents of Boggabri and farms in this district particularly Maules Creek depend on ground water for both domestic and farming activities. Any risk to the ground water is unacceptable. The Precautionary Principle, a strategy to cope with possible risks where scientific understanding is yet incomplete should be implemented in this occasion.

The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Narrabri Gas Project does not adequately address the risk to ground water.

Santos project expects to remove 37.5 GL of heavily contaminated groundwater from the coal seam gas layer over the life of the gas field in the recharge zone of the Great Artesian Basin. Santos admit that this could reduce the flow to the GAB. We cannot afford this risk. We need this water, deepening bores is very expensive. Will Santos pay this cost? Maules Creek depend on surface aquifers.

There is also the risk of contamination of the ground water. In the past there have been at least 22 spills of contaminated water in the Pilliga Forest. As this contaminated produced water makes it's way to the GAB there is already risk that contamination will occur with around 50 CSG wells. With 850 Gas wells Santos have contaminated at least one aquifer already.

The stygofauna in the ground water are important to maintaining healthy clean ground water. These sensitive crustaceans have not been considered in the Santos EIS, despite their importance in maintaining connectivity of

aquifers, and cleaning the water. It is doubtful that they will survive a salty environment in the event of a spill.

Despite improved management of the produced water Santos cannot guarantee that there will not be further spills. As with other projects pipes break. Bushfires, floods and aging cause pipes to deteriorate and will cause further spills. Looking at the history of this project it is extremely unlikely that Santos will not cause further contamination of ground water with 850 or more wells.

In the Maules Creek district the ground water is also at risk from coal mining. Please take the cumulative risk into account.

Farming is a long term industry in this most productive farming district. Farmers contribute to the tax base, to exports, and are also significant employers in rural areas. Coal seam gas is short term and polluting. We therefore ask that you do not give preference to a short term industry over a very productive industry.

Should any person from the PAC wish to visit Wando, Maules Creek to view the bores and irrigation please contact Cliff Wallace.

Yours Sincerely
Cliff Wallace
Patron
Wando Conservation and Cultural Centre

IP Address: - 101.173.207.193

Submission: Online Submission from company Wando Conservation and Cultural Centre (org_object)
https://majorprojects.accelo.com/?action=view_activity&id=207006

Submission for Job: #6456 Narrabri Gas Project
https://majorprojects.accelo.com/?action=view_job&id=6456

Site: #2926 Narrabri Gasfield
https://majorprojects.accelo.com/?action=view_site&id=2926