

Belinda Scott - Tomago Gas Plant

From: Belinda Scott
To: Belinda.Scott@planning.nsw.gov.au
Date: 11/07/2011 2:05 PM
Subject: Tomago Gas Plant

Belinda,

I am told you are the person to address with my concern. I read the article about this proposed storage plant and the intent to extend it to coal seam exploration at the site, in the Examiner "our local paper.

I am a new resident of Nelson Bay and I am delighted with the pristine environment in which I find myself. Only a week ago I watched a documentary on SBS called GASLANDS about the devastation caused to the water table over vast areas of the U.S.A. due to coal seam gas exploration. Residents close to the sites were putting a match to their drinking water as it flowed from their kitchen taps and watching it burst into flame. The process involves injecting water laced with an horrendous cocktail of petrochemicals into the ground under huge pressure, to cause cracks in the earth's crust to release the gas. Inevitably it permeates the water table and wreaks havoc. Locals were having to import water for all their household needs and stock animals who had to drink the water, were sick and losing all their hair. Local businesses and residents were having to pack up and leave with no compensation. I sat there congratulating myself that Australians are not so subservient to authority that we would allow such a thing here, and the very next day the article appeared in my local paper saying this very action was being planned for the head waters of the pristine Port Stephens area. Please tell me that we wouldn't do anything so unbelievably stupid.

I understand that areas of Qld have already been under attack and they are now trying to back track to undo the damage. The energy company involved is being sued for breaching environmental guidelines. They can probably handle the fine and keep going. Surely it makes more sense to stop them before they begin. They can swear black and blue that they will meet all guidelines but we all know they won't.

I am all for economic progress and jobs for families, but sometimes the price is too high.

Please respond to this email. I would like to know I have been heard on this. Gaslands is still on the SBS website if you need to view it.

Regards Elenor Davis