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To: NSW Department of Planning and Environment
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001

Submission to the Narrabri Gas Project

I object to this project for the following reasons

1. Removing vast quantities of produce water from the coal seams is over time going to impact on aquifers closer to the surface, including the Great Artesian Basin, which are used for irrigation and stock watering.
2. The disposal of this water has the potential to contaminate aquifers, soil and river systems.
3. The salt extracted from produce water during treatment is proposed to be put into landfill. Where will this landfill be located? How will it be secured to prevent leaching downstream and affecting properties?
4. The proposed gas bores will penetrate the recharge area for the Great Artesian Basin and any contamination or leakage will then be carried down into the Basin by the recharge waters.
5. This project risks our long term water security and soil quality for a short term industry which needs massive infrastructure to extract a polluting fossil fuel. The east coast of Australia has windy ridges and coastlines – ideal for wind turbines, and plenty of sun – and yet new homes are not required to have solar panels. (My home is not connected to the grid and we rely on solar power for most of our energy needs.)

I urge the NSW Government to reject this project and instead protect our water, our soil and our grandchildren's future.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Spooner', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.