



PCU070597

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Date: April 19th, 2017

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Received
27 APR 2017
Scanning Room

This is a submission to the Narrabri Gas EIS.

I object to this project and believe it should be rejected.

The lack of detail in the Santos EIS concerning the placement of all associated infrastructure and the responsible disposal of well waste (salt and water; both long and short term) is worrying.

Hitherto, they (Santos) have been unable to effectively deal with and repair test well spill damage.

This project is testing the boundaries considering Santos' other six mapped gas fields which cove much of the prime agricultural land between Moree, Gilgandra and Muswellbrook.

It is too risky, too short sighted, and too damaging for all the reasons listed below.

- It will extract over 35 billion litres of toxic groundwater, much of it in the first five years. This water will be treated and in the early years will generate tens of thousands of tonnes of salt, for which there is no safe disposal plan.
- It will clear close to 1,000 hectares of the Pilliga Forest, fragmenting the largest temperate woodland in New South Wales, home to unique wildlife.
- It will cause significant diversion of water from a recharge aquifer of the Great Artesian Basin, which is a water resource relied upon by rural communities across western NSW.
- It will add to climate change through large deliberate and fugitive methane emissions.
- It will cause trauma to the regional Aboriginal community because the area of impact is crucially important to the spiritual, cultural and social life of Gamilaraay people.
- It is not justified: Santos' own export activities in Queensland have caused gas prices to rise and supply to become unpredictable. NSW should respond to this by investing in more reliable and ultimately cheaper renewable energy, not by letting Santos inflict more environmental, social and economic harm.
- It will cause economic upheaval in Narrabri and put agricultural industries at risk, as well as causing light pollution that will ruin the dark night sky needed by the internationally renowned Siding Spring Observatory.
- Coal seam gas is harmful to health. Neither the NSW Government nor Santos have dealt with the serious health effects appearing in peer-reviewed research in the U.S.

I urge the Government to reject this project and make the Great Artesian Basin recharge off-limits to gas mining.

Signed,