



**Campaigner & Consultant
for climate/environmental protection,
energy policy and further development
of democratic processes
Stechbahn 9
34497 Korbach
Germany**

**email: andy.gheorghiu@mail.de
Tel: +49 (0) 56 31 / 50 69 507
Mobile: +49 (0) 160 / 20 30 974**

**Steuer-Nr./Tax No.: 027 821 02287
ID-Nr.: 60 112 754 894**

Attn: Executive Director, Resource Assessments
Department of Planning and Environment
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001

Korbach, 18 May 2017

Submission to the Narrabri Gas EIS

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

Why object?

- It will extract over 35 billion litres of toxic groundwater and risk the Great Artesian Basin— one of the largest underground fresh-water aquifers in the world— a critical water source for inland Australia.
- It will generate an average of 47 tonnes and a peak of 115 tonnes of salt each day. Santos has provided no information about its salt disposal plan.
- It will fragment over 66,000 hectares of the Pilliga forest, the largest remnant woodland in eastern Australia and home to threatened species like the Koala, Spotted-tailed Quoll, Black-striped Wallaby, Eastern Pygmy-possum and the Pilliga Mouse.
- It will add deliberate emissions and unmeasured and unknown quantities of fugitive emissions to climate change. Santos has provided no direct fugitive measurement plan. Emissions of even small amounts of unburned methane give natural gas a huge greenhouse gas footprint. In 2013, the IPCC stated that methane is more than 100-times more powerful for the first decade after emission, 84-87-times over a 20-year period, and 34-36 times over 100 years. The shorter time periods are the most appropriate to use, given the urgency of slowing global warming over the coming 10 to 20 years. Natural gas and coal are both climate disasters, with coal worse for carbon dioxide emissions but natural gas far worse from the standpoint of methane.
- 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.



email: andy.gheorghiu@mail.de

Tel: +49 (0) 56 31 / 50 69 507

Mobile: +49 (0) 160 / 20 30 974

Steuer-Nr./Tax No.:
ID-Nr.:

**027 821 02287
60 112 754 894**

-
- It is not justified: Australia is soon to overtake Qatar as the world's largest LNG exporter. Santos' own export activities have caused domestic gas prices to rise and supply to become unpredictable, yet now Santos is using this as justification to develop dangerous CSG. Australian research has shown that renewable energy coupled with battery storage is more affordable than gas-fired generation. Australia does not need this gas.
 - It will cause light pollution through that will ruin the dark night sky needed by the internationally renowned Siding Spring Observatory. Light pollution from an increase in coal extraction in the last 20 years has already reduced the darkness of our night sky. Traffic movements would greatly increase, thus increasing the amount of dust in the air and affecting clarity of observing. Flaring may be constant. This will be a minor problem at this stage but Santos' stockholder information indicates that once this project is established, gas fields will then be developed at Tooraweenah, and other nearby areas. This could cause the closure of SSO.
 - 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.
 - CSG extraction is spatially intensive. This intensifies air, light, sound, dust, water pollution. There will be increased fragmentation. From the map in the Executive Summary it is apparent that there are large areas where there are no existing roads. There will probably need to be double the length of roads to access undisturbed areas.

Signed

Andy Gheorghiu