

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

This is a submission to the Narrabri Gas Project EIS.

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

I challenge the declaration of David Chubb stating that The information contained in the Santos Narrabri Gas Project Environmental Impact Statement is neither false nor misleading. This EIS is misleading. I raise the following points in regard to this which concurrently support my objections to the Narrabri Gas Project.

The Environmental Impact Statement forward States,

"The ability for natural gas development to co-exist with agriculture and other industries is demonstrated by Santos' Queensland natural gas operations, where it has in excess of 850 agreements in place with more than 300 landholders."

A majority of those agreements were made when the side effects of natural gas operations were not known. As a result of this invasion on land holders properties and the discovery of negative side effects, there have been many community meetings in protest of the mining processes and the Lock the Gate community has been formed to educate on the dangers of, and to assist the public to keep the natural gas industry away. This form of mining is mostly unwanted by Australians. Santos has a poor record of respecting the public interests or dealing with issues raised from their mining methods. They also have a track record of denying any problems exist and claim that their mining methods are wonderful and perfectly safe when the community knows first hand that it is having negative impacts on their water quality, water availability, air quality and health.

As a result of this poor history, I do not trust the environmental impact statement claims that there is not expected to be any significant environmental problems caused by the Narrabri Gas Project. I would expect at least acknowledgment of where there have been problems in past gas projects and why this project is different. Also because of the over positive conclusions, there are insufficient action plans created for any negative environmental impacts that may arise. Reports from the local community claim their only source of water is the from the Pilliga sandstone layer. There is no tolerance for any degradation of that water supply. Given the history of coal seam gas mining, there is no guarantee of zero contamination. So therefore this project is too risky. It is claimed there are financial benefits to the community, but if the ground water is poisoned, within the 20 year mining period, there will no longer be a community remaining.

The Environmental Impact Statement forward also states,

"Santos has gained a strong level of support within the broader Narrabri community through its demonstrated commitment to operating safely and its extensive local engagement since acquiring the operations in late 2011."