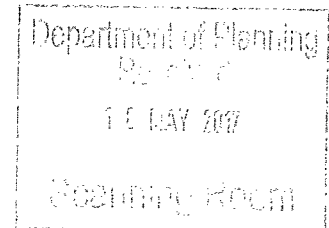




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11th May 2017

Publishing of details are permitted.

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 would like to lodge a firm objection to this project.

*There are a large amount of reasons why this project should be rejected and I am finding it difficult to understand how, with so many proven problems in the past, this industry is even being considered. I don't believe how statements containing words like **minimal** and **manageable effects** can be allowed to be put forward. If there are **no guarantees** as to the results or effects on anything to do with this industry then it should not be able to proceed.*

*The issue of chemically contaminated water spills has happened within recent weeks.
How do they solve this so it can't happen in NSW?*

Santos has stated that there will be a number of people who will be employed in the construction phase of the project and a small amount employed ongoing. The amount of farmers potentially affected from known problems including water drawdown, contaminated ground water, contaminated rivers and creeks can cause considerable unemployment throughout the wider agriculture industry with a catastrophic effect on farmland, crops and stock. This potential unemployment on the land could be far greater long term than the amount employed by the project.

Does Narrabri and surrounding areas have the people with the expertise to construct the a gasfield or will the majority of the quoted number of potential employees be bought in from other construction sites?

If employees are being bought in from elsewhere, what has been organised for their accommodation?

*Extremely dangerous **flaring** is occurring in bushfire prone areas. There are very strong laws on fire restrictions and bans within all states. N.S.W. has experienced massive fire events in bushland and on farmland yet, with an exemption on **flaring** in the Pilliga Gasfield, this practice is still happening risking the lives and livelihoods of many people. In the past our local Rural Fire Services have gone to large fires at The Warrumbungle Mountains and St Ivan's at Dunedoo they also assist out of the area wherever necessary. There are major concerns about the **flaring process** in the Pilliga Forest.*

- Excessive summer temperatures and strong windy days causing bushfire issues are bad enough without the added risk of flaring.*
- An ignited leaf can travel 60 meters and ignite other dry leaves and grass.*
- Fire Brigades will have to fight fires in a Gasfield putting many lives at extra considerable risk.*

When the fire brigades draw necessary water from dams and bores in and around the project area, is the possibly chemically contaminated water deemed safe to use to extinguish a bushfire?

The salt and toxic residue generated from this project will need to be disposed of and this also can cause major issues to surrounding areas. There has been no satisfactory explanation as to how this will be dealt with.

Are there any guarantees this will be dealt with without any contamination to the environment?

*CSG is harmful to our health. **What price is life.** The health of the community should be the Government's main priority. We have seen reports from various places in Australia and overseas where people are getting extremely ill when they live near CSG projects. There are unexplained illnesses found in people who now live near a gasfield. Small children with unexplainable neurological problems. If the people that make the decisions are not compassionate about the community's wellbeing and are prepared to risk the health of the community then maybe they should look at the cost affective side of these ongoing illnesses.*

How much is this costing our Medicare system?

Meat and Livestock Australia require livestock farmers to fill out a National Vendor Declaration. In the document it is required to declare any chemicals given to stock prior to sale. The chemicals used in wells producing CSG can contaminate aquifers, then, stock drinking water from bores and dams fed by those aquifers can be affected by toxic chemicals. This would mean that not only are the stock exposed to the toxic chemical risking their life but the farmer is also making an illegal false declaration and the toxic meat will be sold for human consumption.

Are there any guarantees farmers will not be put at this risk?

Insurance Companies are not allowing some farms to insure their properties if they are affected by a gasfield.

Property values have dropped considerably in rural towns and farmland near gasfield's.

A project of this size has a massive amount of infrastructure and this will mean a lot more forest removal or taking over farmland for gasfield use. There will be a large amount of extra traffic and trucks on our roads. Wide and heavy loads will be a major issue on the highways, damaging the road surfaces and holding up the traffic flow. This can cause potential traffic hazards and accidents.

I consider all the above points to be valid reasons to reject this project. In my opinion there are too many ways this project can cause extremely detrimental damage. Damage can occur solely from HUMAN ERROR and there are no guarantees it won't, as it has in the past. People's lives and livelihoods and their massive contribution to the economy should take first consideration.

Signed.

