

Melissa Cain
"Silverleigh"
319 Forest Way Road
Wee Waa NSW 2388

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

This is a submission to the Narrabri Gas EIS.

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

1. It will cause draw down of a recharge aquifer of the Great Artesian Basin, a water resource relied upon by rural communities across western NSW.
2. It will clear close to 1000 hectares of the Pilliga, the largest temperate woodland in New South Wales, home to unique wildlife and crucially important to the spiritual, cultural and social life of the Gamilaraay people.
3. It will extract over 35 billion liters of 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 that needs to be disposed of, also raising issues of how this salt will be disposed of.
4. Values of farming land and our properties within the area and surrounding areas of the gasfields will diminish which will be caused directly by CSG and concerns of we will be compensated if this does happen over the span of the project.
5. The social values of those who live in the area will be undermined by the air pollution caused by CSG. Undue stress and physiological strain is placed on all families living within this CSG zone.
6. Agricultural industry will be put at risk, causing economic upheaval.
7. CSG is harmful to health. Neither the NSW Government nor Santos have investigated or dealt with the serious health effects of coal seam gas now appearing in peer-reviewed research in the United States, Australia and World Wide.
8. Lack of accountability and compensation from Santos and gas companies if something does go wrong.
9. Dalby and Chinchilla have been effected by CSG, it has impacted negatively on communities through water contamination resulting in health issues, yet another reason why CSG should not continue.
10. Flooding would cause serious harmful effects to animals and humans should waste wash out of the contaminated ponds on gasfields.
11. It is not justified: Santos' own CSG export activities in Queensland have caused gas prices to rise and supply to become unpredictable. NSW government 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 through GCS.
12. Our farm has been in our family for 4 generations and Santos can risk not only our way of life but also for future generations of farming and agriculture if water is contaminated or our farm value decreases. CSG only has an estimated life span of approximately 20 years.

13. The potential to dry up our bores, drop water levels in our bores making them unusable, cause water contamination and harm the great artesian basin. This will impact our income and farming practices as we rely on underground water for stock and domestic use.
14. Bullying, intimidation and harassment from staff at Narrabri Santos already to have CSG on our properties is causing great psychological distress for me and my family and this will continue if this project goes ahead.
15. We have diverse farming operations on our properties including grain growing and livestock (cattle, sheep and pigs) we are Meat Standard Australia (MSA) approved. We are concerned that being in the gasfield area may impact on our accreditation and if our land or water is contaminated by CSG this will cause great financial distress on both our business and the agriculture industry. Other accreditation which could be affected by CSG is free range and RSPCA approved.
16. Concerns that public liability and other insurances would not be valid should a high risk industry be developed in the area or on my properties.

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

Regards

Melissa Cain