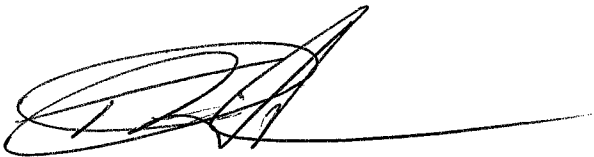


## **PUBIC SUBMISSION TO NARRABRI GAS PROJECT**

**I strongly object to the proposed Narrabri Gas Project on the basis that:**

1. In response to the requirements set by the NSW Department of Planning (SEARs) the proponents (SANTOS NSW Eastern Pty Ltd) have submitted an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) that lacks accurate and detailed information such that it is not possible to ensure that if the Project went ahead as proposed it would have a Nil Effect on the Environment. (see risk analysis page 2).
2. Given the time and resources available, the proponents EIS contains omissions, errors and inaccuracies of such significance that the proponent clearly demonstrates that it could not be trusted to safely undertake a project of such complexity without posing a high level of risk to the community and the environment.
3. During exploration activities in the project area, the proponent has consistently demonstrated a behaviour of non-compliance with important environmental regulations (such as not reporting environmental spills and accidents) and intentionally utilised security contractors to intimidate, bully and harass members of the community visiting public areas within the Project area. (see page 3 - letter to editor Narrabri Courier)
4. The NSW Department of Planning has not had time to adequately developed and test a centralised Risk Management and Prediction Tool to assist with the assessment of this proposal, such that the public can have confidence that the tool is robust and is adequately established to draw on data from the Whole-of-Environment Data Repository.
5. The Chief Scientist Recommendations 10, 11, 12, 13 have not been adequately implemented to ensure projects risks can be managed.



Tim Wilson

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Narrabri 2390

NSW State Significant Development - SSD 14\_6456

## Narrabri Gas Project - Analysis of Santos EIS response to Requirements of SEARs and NSW Gas Plan

Item	Key Issue	Consequence	Likelihood	RISK	Most significant issues (this list is not exhaustive)
SEAR - General Requirements					
	Water	Catastrophic	Regular	H	No Peer review of Chemical Risk Assessment
	Land	Major	Notable	S	Lack of information for proposed well location unacceptable. Poor track record of reporting environmental incidents.
	Biodiversity	Severe	Regular	H	Lack of consideration of effect of road networks in landscape
	Heritage	Severe	Regular	H	Lack of appreciation of heritage values to community
	Air Quality	Major	Notable	S	Lack of baseline data
	Noise	Minor	Notable	M	Proposal to locate infrastructure within 200m Yarrie Lake unacceptable
	Transport	Minor	Notable	M	No Traffic Management Plan, Traffic Risk Analysis does not consider wet weather, no commitment to fund damaged roads
	Visual	Minor	Occasional	L	Scale of visual disturbance from air not considered
	Public Safety	Severe	Regular	H	Lack of acceptance of risk posed to community through fire and spills
	Economic	Major	Notable	S	Over optimistic view of contribution to economy. Poor track record of establishing trust in community.
Consultation		Major	Notable	S	Santos have failed to consult with important project neighbours and local tourist attraction - CSIRO - Paul Wild Observatory
NSW Gas Plan		Catastrophic	Occasional	H	Action 1 - Implement all Chief Scientist and Engineer Recommendations. Evidence of implementation of Recommendation 10,11 12, and 13 not clear

Consequence	Consequence of SEAR Requirement not addressed in EIS through omission, error or inaccuracy
Likelihood	Occurrences that the EIS does not address SEAR Requirement through omission, error or inaccuracy

CONSEQUENCE	LIKELIHOOD			
	Rare	Occasion	Notable	Regular
Catastrophic	S	S	H	H
Severe	M	S	S	H
Major	L	M	S	H
Minor	L	L	M	S
Not Significant	L	L	M	S

H	High Risk
S	Significant Risk
M	Medium Risk
L	Low Risk



# EDITORIAL

## A milestone event for the Blue Boars in 50th year

**T**his year has already been a successful milestone year for the Narrabri Rugby Union Club with a gala event to mark the club's 50th anniversary and its outstanding achievement to finish as minor premiers in the tough Central North Tier One competition.

However, the chance for more glory lies ahead with the 2014 Grand Final set down for the rugby ground at Dangar Park on Saturday.

Narrabri's Blue Boars will again take on the impressive Tamworth Pirates side in what promises to be yet another gruelling but thrilling encounter.

When the Blue Boars take to the park behind captain Matt Schwaiger at the weekend before what promises to be a bumper crowd it will not just be 'another grand final'.

The Narrabri players will wear the mantle of 50 years of sporting pride and carry the hopes and

best wishes of hundreds of former Blue Boars' players and officials and many hundreds more of family, friends and supporters who have grown with what has become one of Narrabri's leading sporting clubs.

The Narrabri

Rugby Club is a club that has enjoyed good player and supporter backing over the years but it has also harnessed that drive, enthusiasm and commitment into building a top-rate facility overlooking the Narrabri Lake.

The clubhouse, irrigated playing surface,

lighting, stands and other facilities represent the impact of enthusiasm for the code backed by ongoing great leadership and great voluntary effort.

The spirit of a club is critical to its progress and success.

In the case of Narrabri Rugby Club the evidence of player and supporter commitment abounds.

The Dangar Park oval has been the ground on which a remarkable succession of representative rugby players have learned the game and enhanced their skills in the jersey of the Blue Boars.

Players from Narrabri have gone on to representative honours at zone, state and national level.

The club has developed its own traditions and has its own tales and legends.

It has been particularly successful in developing home-grown players, taking them from the junior levels to the top senior teams.

It is this thread of 'belonging, a thread that spans generations, that newcomers quickly embrace.

And so, on Saturday when the Blue Boars' players take the field on Saturday they will do so knowing that they are playing for a club and a wider community who will be wholeheartedly behind their efforts to continue the proud story of the Narrabri Rugby Club.

Good luck to the Narrabri Blue Boars on Saturday!

**It has been particularly successful in developing home-grown players, taking them from the junior levels to the top senior teams.**

## YOUR SAY



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## Filmed on a family outing to Pilliga drill sites, says reader

I write in response to Vesna Rendulic's letter inviting community members to go on a tour of Santos' sites, and would like to share my experience of going with friends to have a look at what is happening in the Pilliga.

On July 6, I was invited to go for a visit to the forest to have a look at Santos operations.

It was not a Santos tour. The acquaintance we went with has a lot of knowledge of the history and facts of Coal Seam Gas exploration in the Pilliga Forest, not only by Santos but also by previous companies.

My husband and I, two other couples and a friend with her two children went along, all interested to learn what is going on within several kilometres of Narrabri town.

We visited various drill sites operated or maintained by Santos. Some were of current activity; others were sites of damage to the land caused by past drill activity

- spills of drilling chemicals and highly saline water. While we were in the State Forest - outside Santos' fences - observing the Santos holding ponds, a Santos 4WD vehicle came and parked near our cars, observing us.

When we moved on, it then closely followed us to the next site.

There, three men wearing hard hats and sunglasses got out and followed us, one with a video camera filming us and our vehicles, including a close up of our number plates.

The work site was fenced and we were well out of the way of their operations, but the men were very intimidating, threatening and aggressive in their approach telling us we were not allowed in that area.

It is a State Forest and public land - why did they need to be unpleasant and heavy handed?

We were only observing, interested to learn what they were doing. They could have used the

interaction to explain and educate us in what was happening - and it would be a different tale I would be now telling.

They are pleased enough to plaster their signs, advertising and spin all over the town but we were made to feel criminal and dirty by being there.

We were causing no trouble and certainly did not look like trouble makers, protesters or spies.

What were they trying to keep us from seeing?

They continued to film us, and the children, the whole time - refusing to remove the footage of the children, and refusing to let us know their names.

The mother asked them to destroy the film as she did not want them to have film of her children.

They implied in the conversation that their behaviour - filming the children without permission - was fully endorsed by NSW Police and they continued filming saying any complaints could be dealt with at

the Santos office during the week (even though they would not tell us their names to contact them).

Why should we trust they were going to be law abiding with the tape after their unpleasant and intimidating behaviour?

Where is the film now?

For the rest of our visit, learning about the different operations at a further three drill sites, the vehicle followed us, and every time we got out of the cars to learn about that site, one of the Santos employees came and stood nearby - very intimidating and threatening behaviour.

The vehicle followed us closely until we left the forest.

It was very sinister. This has left a very unpleasant taste. I can only feel that Santos is hiding something they don't want people to know about.

It spoils the whole day and now I want more people out there to know that Santos are only interested in you visiting the forest

for a tour if they can control where you visit and what you see.

The more I learn about Coal Seam Gas extraction practices around the world and in Australia and how those areas have suffered, the more I am convinced that Santos only want people to see and hear their controlled information - even falsely accusing true facts and concerned citizens searching for the truth of being lies and liars.

This isn't just about what is currently happening in the Pilliga, but what life will be like for locals once Santos and the government turn our land into a gas field.

At this stage I'm certain that the information Santos is giving me is far from the truth.

Ms Rendulic, I think one tour of Santos' operations' is enough for me.

Mandy Wilson  
Narrabri



ABOVE: The family is moving into their new Belar Street home, above, over the next few days. Pictured, Stacy McInnes, Luke Baker, Lachlan, two, and baby Reagan who was born on August 29.

## 'Thanks' from house fire victims Stacy and Luke

We would like to sincerely thank the people of Narrabri and surrounding areas for all their help and support during this hard time.

A tragic event like this is something you never hope to hear about, and knowing that it has hit this close to home has been one of the hardest things our families have had to deal with.

Having our family and friends' support has definitely got us through. We would like to thank all the emergency services for their quick response and in particular Damien Ridley who happened to be driving past at the same time and pulled over to assist with turning off the power.

He also advised us to get the cars out quick.

Our vehicles could have been destroyed also as this was something that we hadn't thought about.

(I am still embarrassed that he saw me in my pyjamas, Stacy said). We have been overwhelmed with donations from large organisations to individuals all of which we are extremely grateful for.

We are finally getting things together and hope to be moved into our new home early next week. At times you take living in the country for granted, but we now realise how lucky we are to live in a small community town especially in events like this, where everyone pulls together and is willing to help.

Stacy, Luke, Lachlan and Reagan  
Narrabri

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters to the Editor on issues of community interest are invited. Please email [editorial@nwcourier.com.au](mailto:editorial@nwcourier.com.au)