

Dear Department:

My name is \_\_Michael John Wilson\_\_, and I submit the following for your review and assessment of the Development Plan and EIS for the Narrabri Gas Project (NGP).

**Importance of gas in NSW.**

- A reliable and affordable gas supply is critical to our way of life, as evidenced by the gas supply crisis we are now experiencing on the East Coast of Australia.
- In NSW more than 1 million homes 33,000 businesses and the jobs of more than 300,000 workers rely on an affordable and secure supply of natural gas. Yet NSW imports 95% of its gas supply from interstate.
- Industry groups and the Federal Government have been calling for new gas projects to support jobs, manufacturing and large scale production – **The Narrabri Gas Project can deliver just that.**
- The NGP could supply up to 50% NSW gas demand and deliver significant benefits to the local community and the state, including up to \$120 million for a regional Community Fund, and up to \$1.2 billion in royalties for the State.
- The Project will also create up to 1300 jobs during construction and 200 ongoing positions.
- Natural gas has a vital role to play in delivering energy security, whilst having the additional benefit of being 50% cleaner than coal resulting in a significant reduction in carbon emissions.
- The development of new natural gas resources is crucial in increasing the gas supply to the East Coast and assisting Australia's move towards a clean energy future.

**Narrabri is an ideal place for a gas project and Santos has the depth of experience to develop it.**

- Santos is an Australian company with a 60 year history of operating safely and sustainably, as evidenced by its exploration and production activities in the Cooper Basin, where local beef stations have achieved and retain organic certification for their beef, which demonstrates the agricultural and the gas industry can mutually coexist.
- The majority of the project area is in a section of the Pilliga which, after a thorough ecological review has been set aside by the NSW Government for logging and extractive industries.
- The Project area does not include National Parks or Nature Reserves.
- The Project area does not contain strategic agriculture land as mapped by the NSW Government. Santos has stated it will only drill on private land with landholder agreement.