

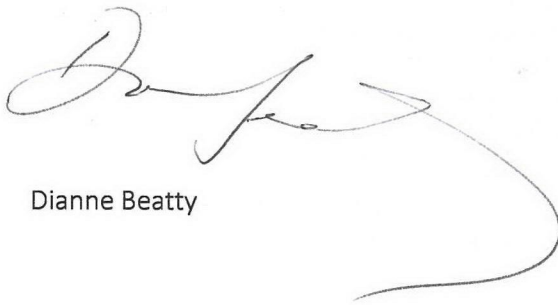


associated with climate change and will undermine your Government's goal of net zero carbon emissions by 2050.

- It will cause significant diversion of water from a recharge aquifer of the Great Artesian Basin, which is a water resource relied upon by rural communities across western NSW.
- It will add to climate change through large deliberate and fugitive methane emissions.
- It will cause trauma to the regional Aboriginal community because the area of impact is crucially important to the spiritual, cultural and social life of Gamilaraay people.
- It is not justified: Santos' own export activities in Queensland have caused gas prices to rise and supply to become unpredictable. NSW 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.
- It will cause economic upheaval in Narrabri and put agricultural industries at risk, as well as causing light pollution that will ruin the dark night sky needed by the internationally renowned Siding Spring Observatory.
- Coal seam gas is harmful to health. Neither the NSW Government nor Santos have dealt with the serious health effects appearing in peer-reviewed research in the U.S.

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

I have noted that under the former Premier's administration, the NSW Government released a Gas Plan and a Renewable Energy Action Plan. This Government needs to develop, in consultation with its citizens, a comprehensive, transparent and sustainable energy plan, which considers all energy sources and how they will meet NSW's future energy requirements while also sustaining the health of our citizens and our agricultural and natural environments. Without such a comprehensive plan, any assessment of energy development applications, including this one, must be piecemeal and lacking state-wide context.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dianne Beatty', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Dianne Beatty