



Malcolm Hartley

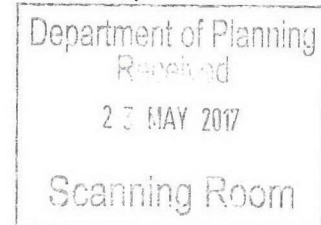
Colonsay Farm

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Coonabarabran

NSW 2357

2017 May 17



To: The NSW Department of Planning and Environment

This is a submission to the Narrabri Gas EIS

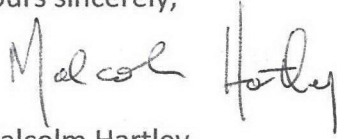
I strongly object to this project for the following reasons

1. Treatment of over 35 billion litres of toxic groundwater by reverse osmosis in order to remove the tens of thousands of tonnes of salt without independent analysis of the produced water is in my view unacceptable. If it is worlds best practice to do this then the world needs an upgrade. Furthermore disposing of the highly soluble salt concentrate by digging a big hole somewhere else in NSW or the Pilliga itself is a recipe of an environmental disaster in whatever area is chosen to be the dustbin. It is industrial vandalism in the extreme. The mining industry are clueless about how to handle this mountain of toxic waste and until this issue is seriously addressed the project should not be allowed to proceed.
2. Clearing as much as 1000 hectares of the Pilliga Forest and fragmenting the largest temperate woodland in New South Wales will have unpredictable and probably irreversible damage to the existence of the unique wildlife within the forest.
3. Contamination of aquifers with toxic chemicals and the inherent threat to bore water drawn from these aquifers poses too great a risk to human and animal health in communities reliant on these bores i.e. practically the whole of the Pilliga population.
4. The Climate Council report on CSG indicate that when fugitive emissions are taken into account CSG is hardly the 'transition fuel' from coal to something much cleaner. In fact, it is worse than coal. The argument that it is a cheaper fuel is nonsense and with the Bass Strait resource still producing an abundance of conventional gas for the foreseeable future, the entire CSG industry is frankly a total waste of time and money when renewables are set to overtake fossil fuels as the major source of energy in the next ten to fifteen years.
5. The industrial wasteland that much of Queensland's darling downs will turn into in the next ten or so years as the wells there inevitably dry up is a price too high to pay for the NSW public. The miners come and go and leave behind the rubbish and

there is never enough money in the pot to clean things up. Remedial solutions to date in the Pilliga are a joke and Santos know this.

Governments of the people of NSW for the people of NSW by the people of NSW should not let this project proceed.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Malcolm Hartley'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with some capitalization.

Malcolm Hartley