I wish to object to the Narrabri Gas Project.

Of principal concern is the water requirement of this project. Over 20 years the mine will require 37.5 billion litres of water which will be treated and will have a residue of salt and heavy metals for which there is no safe disposal plan.

In addition, the removal of such a volume of water will have detrimental effects on the reserves of the Pilliga Sandstone and the recharge of the Great Artesian Basin. Leakage from the alluvium above the coal seams would be detrimental to the Basin and the communities which rely on it.

The Pilliga is the largest temperate woodland in Eastern Australia and contains threatened flora and fauna. It is crucial to the survival of the koala that bushland habitat is spared.

Recent bushfires in NSW destroyed a great deal of wildlife habitat, so the protection of this area becomes even more important.

While the provision of jobs in such a project might be presented as a justification, these jobs would be at the expense of those in agriculture and manufacturing.

Given that Australia is struggling to meet its commitments to the Paris Climate agreement it is not appropriate to approve a project which could produce an additional 5 million tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions.