I object to the Narrabri Gas Fields.

Santos must not be given approval to develop up to 850 new coal seam wells across the Pilliga region near Narrabri.

The negative impact on the local groundwater and above ground water supply is completely unacceptable.

Over 20 years, Santos will remove 37.5 billion litres of groundwater. The water contains salts and heavy metal contaminants which will necessitate treatment. This treatment will produce up to 840,000 tonnes of solid salt, laced with heavy metals, for which Santos still has no disposal plan.

Santos anticipates leakage from the precious alluvium that lies above the coal seams despite claiming there is no linkage between the water sources. Landholders that rely on the GAB, the Gunnedah Oxley Basin and other groundwater in the area are strongly opposed to the project.

98.7% of landholders near Narrabri oppose CSG.

Job creation from the project is not significant compared to the damage by job losses in other areas of work with only 127 Narrabri local full-time jobs over 25 years being created.

Santos’ own assessment admits there would be lost employment in agriculture and manufacturing as a result of the project, despite unsubstantiated claims of flow on jobs in NSW.

Narrabri Gas fields must not go ahead.

Sincerely

M Consterdine