

Dugald Bucknell  
Quambone Station  
QUAMBONE NSW 2831

6th July 2020

Office of the Independent Planning Commission NSW  
Level 3, 201 Elizabeth Street  
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Sir/Madam

RE: OBJECTION TO THE NARRABRI GAS PROJECT

I strongly object to the Narrabri Gas Project on the following grounds:

I live downstream of the proposed gas project area running 9 beef cattle properties, my family has been endeavouring to carryout longterm sustainable agriculture since 1813 when they crossed the Blue Mountains.

A long term sustainable water supply occurring in a natural way is essential for our environment, Stock & Domestic, Towns and our Communities and the Natural Water Cycle.

The Macquarie Marshes are being deprived of even more water with the proposed Gin Gin weir. This will decrease water flow at Carinda Bell's Bridge gauge from originally having a flow 90% of the time to a predicted 24% of the time. The grazing industry, towns and Stock & Domestic will now have to rely on the Great Artesian Basin on average 278 days of the year in my area.

The Grazing industry has already suffered a 21% decrease in stocking rate and a 29 % decrease in Gross Margin. If either of these projects go ahead these communities will decline further loosing profitability, jobs, and asset value. If both projects go ahead I fear the death of all our communities that rely on the Gab and our rivers.

The potential for contamination of our produce and environment over time. That is for eg. say 1% ie contamination will occur 1 year in 100 or 0.1% ie. contamination

will occur 1 year in 1000. When looked at this way it is inevitable that contamination will occur.

If contamination doesn't make our water in our rivers and GAB undrinkable it will probably exceed MRL's ( minimum residue levels) for our products. This will not only stop agriculture in our local area but Australia wide as has occurred in the past with cotton pesticides, TB, and Brucellosis.

Spray drift is a well known problem with Ag chemicals especially on with inversion layers. Chemicals can be transferred from where they are sprayed many kilometres and then deposited onto susceptible crops killing them or causing massive production losses. This can happen with any chemical that can be suspended within a gas ie atmosphere.

The Murray Darling Basin is already under severe stress, I believe already an unsustainable state, undergoing ecological change. The addition of extra contaminated water will not help and may lead to another fish kill type situation.

In Conclusion;

I believe opening up the Narrabri Gas Field in the Pilliga to fill a short term gap before renewable sustainable come one line has very limited benefits, but exposes all communities to long term sustainable risks.

I want to be on the right side of history, so urge you to enforce the 'Precautionary Principle' and disallow this project.

With Due Respect,

Dugald Bucknell