To the Independent Planning Commission,

You can include my name and submission on your website.

This is a submission on the Narrabri Gas Project.

I firmly OBJECT to the proposed Narrabri Gas Project due to its significant environmental, heritage, social and economic impacts.

I am making the submission as I strongly believe it is very wrong to put the water security of a typically arid area at risk. The North West of NSW is responsible for a large amount of food and fibre production and is heavily reliant on the Great Artesian Basin. I am a third generation grazier from Coonamble and the Narrabri Gas Project threatens the viability of future production in the area. We are heavily reliant on the Great Artesian Basin for domestic use and stock water and if it were to be depressurised this would render many producers incapable of continuing, and therefore substantially reduce agricultural production. The risk of future farming generations not having water security is totally unacceptable.

It can clearly be seen that fracking and CSG mining is harmful to the environment – the water in the Condamine river being flammable is a clear sign that this is **not** healthy, not sustainable. Further to this a recent article titled ‘Planet Watch: the madness and corruption of unconventional gas’ indicates that natural gas extraction – essentially methane in various forms is 86 times worse for global warming in the short term than Carbon Dioxide. (David Lowe, 2020)

Furthermore, I urge the National Government to engage in more long term energy solutions. As the name suggests CSG is indeed ‘unconventional’. Whilst it will provide jobs for the short term, a far more proactive approach would be to invest in research and training for renewable energy solutions – not only does this preserve agricultural land for maximum production, it will also provide a plethora of jobs well into the future, whilst the proposed Narrabri Gas Project, will not.

The Great Artesian Basin is a natural wonder. Just because it isn’t clearly visible to one does not mean its significance should be disregarded.

Due to the above reasons I strongly object to the Narrabri Gas Project. Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I look forward to hearing from you in regards to this submission.

Regards

Cara Fagan

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