

Submission From Cameron Fearnley From Moree To The NSW Independent Planning Commission Regarding Santos' Narrabri Gas Project

I would just like to put on record my total and extreme opposition to the Narrabri Gas project. I would have requested to speak at the public hearing but with time and spots limited I will leave that to far more erudite and knowledgeable people than me. Similarly, there is not a lot of point me regurgitating and copy-and-pasting the vast amounts of information showing the massive negative environmental, sociological and financial effects that this Trojan Horse project will have on the Narrabri and surrounding districts that is available which I am sure you are well aware of.

The risk to the irreplaceable resource of our groundwater supplies and the effects that any damage to both shallow and deep aquifers will have on them and the interconnectedness of groundwater to stream and river flows alone should be sufficient to make this project far too risky to have got as far as it has. That the project has not been thrown out years ago for the potential that it has for creating a irreversible water system catastrophe and that Santos are still attempting to gain approval says far more about the power of the governmental lobbying (that is the polite, but not strictly accurate, term for what they are doing) that the gas industry has been undertaking and bears absolutely no reflection on the suitability of this project for approval.

I do not envy you, the commissioners, your task. This project and the ones which will ride into town on its coat tails are going to completely destroy the landscape, groundwater, economies and society in the North West NSW region and you are the ones who have the power to say "NO, this is not acceptable, the risks are too great, we will not approve this."

I can only hope that you have the courage and clear conscience to do so.

Thank You