I have lived my 62 years in NSW. My family (father, 2 brothers, an uncle’s family) were/are employed in the coal industry. Over the years, I have learnt much about many destructive forces that together, are increasingly pressurising the complex, underlying, life systems on this planet.

Climate Change is a known fact. We need to urgently transition away from causing harmful emissions. The UN Environment Program’s Production Gap Report in 2019 found that, “With average lifetimes of 20 years or longer for pipelines, terminals, wells, and platforms, the time to begin planning for a wind-down of gas production is, as with other fossil fuels, already upon us.” This project going ahead does the opposite: it further entrenches the use of gas.

There are alternatives! Our human ingenuity, love of life and ability to problem solve and adapt can now be applied to use alternative energy sources.

Total greenhouse gas emissions produced by the project could be 127.8 million tonnes of CO2 equivalent, or 5 million tonnes a year. In a time when Australia is struggling to meet its commitments under the Paris Climate Agreement, this one gasfield would increase our greenhouse gas emissions by nearly 1% per year.

There are many points I could make; however the march on rising effects of climate change is the imperative on refusing this project approval so as to look after our country, ourselves and the wider environment into the future.

I have made no donations to political parties.