

**From:** [ansyg@iprimus.com.au](mailto:ansyg@iprimus.com.au)  
**To:** [IPCN Enquiries Mailbox](#)  
**Subject:** Submission of Objection: Narrabri Gas Project  
**Date:** Friday, 3 July 2020 12:49:13 PM

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Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to make a submission against the Narrabri Gas Project.

I ask the Independent Planning Commission to reject this project for the following reasons:

No need for more gas

Is this gas destined for the internal or export market? Is this part of a gas-led recovery strategy for our country? If for export, should Australia be party to contributing to carbon emissions by a) gas drilling and b) exporting our carbon emissions rather than investing in alternative energy sources for export.

Almost all gas produced in eastern Australia is exported via the LNG terminals at Gladstone. The small amount of expensively produced gas from the project will have negligible impact on domestic prices or supply.

Climate impact

If we are to have any hope of keeping global warming below 2°C we must keep gas in the ground.

This gas field will release at least 94.2 million tonnes of potent climate pollution during mining and when the gas is burned for energy, and fugitive methane emissions are likely to be underestimated.

Existing coal and gas fields will push the world past globally agreed temperature goals. There is no room, or need, for more. The rapid development of battery storage technology makes renewable energy sources backed by batteries a cheaper, cleaner option than developing more gas.

New gas production is an unnecessary and dangerous step in Australia's efforts to tackle climate change. We are highly vulnerable to climate change impacts like bushfires, drought and extreme heat. More gas extraction increases our exposure to climate risks.

Poison and deplete groundwater

Santos will remove 1.5 gigalitres of water per year by drilling 850 wells through the Pilliga sandstone aquifer (part of the Great Artesian Basin) and into the coal seams beneath.

This removal will depressurise the underground water sources, as well as threaten the recharge of the Great Artesian Basin that they feed.

This project will bring ancient, contaminated coal seam water to the surface.

The water from the coal seams has been in contact with coal for hundreds of thousands of years — perhaps longer — and has absorbed elements that could be harmful if they leak into the irrigation water in the aquifers. Extracted water from the coal seams may contaminate the Great Artesian Basin aquifer. Local communities rely on this supply for water for stock, domestic and irrigation purposes.

For these 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.

I am happy for my name and submission to be included on your website.

Anne Marie George  
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