

From: lployd.qa@gmail.com
To: [IPCN Enquiries Mailbox](#)
Subject: Dismiss application for Narrabri Gas project
Date: Friday, 3 July 2020 2:44:04 PM

Dear Independent Planning Commission,

I am writing to make a submission regarding the Narrabri Gas Project. I would like to record my objection to this project, and the lack of responsible consideration for the ecological values of the Pilliga Forest and surrounds.

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

Furthermore I ask that the Independent Planning Commission reject approval of this project. My concerns are listed below.

1. Climate impact

It has been demonstrated that gas consumption is declining, and the argument that gas can be the power generation energy source for base load power, or transition power, can no longer be supported.

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. Australia is highly vulnerable to climate change impacts like bushfires, drought and extreme heat. More gas extraction increases our exposure to climate risks.

Threatened species

This project will endanger koalas and two rare and iconic bird species - the swift parrot and the regent honeyeater.

The swift parrot is critically endangered. The total swift parrot population is estimated to be no more than 1000 pairs. Habitat loss is a contributing factor in the decline of this species.

The regent honeyeater has become an icon for birdwatchers in NSW. It is a threatened woodland species whose conservation will benefit a large suite of other threatened and declining woodland fauna.

There have been koala sightings in the Pilliga East State Forest. The Western Woodlands Alliance classifies that state forest as a priority area for koala conservation. Koala skulls have been discovered in the project area, further evidence of their presence.

Pollution of 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.

Yours Sincerely,

Peter Lloyd
2350