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**To:** [IPCN Enquiries Mailbox](#)  
**Subject:** Narrabri Gas Project  
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I object to Santos' plans for an 850 well coal seam gas (CSG) project in the Pilliga forest and adjacent farmland. I have recently been to the area and was impressed by its natural beauty and relatively pristine state. I understand that the Pilliga is the largest unspoiled forest west of the divide in NSW. My wife and I saw some impressive rock formations and even spoke to the indigenous custodians of the area. It would be an act of vandalism to spoil this unique natural and cultural environment.

As a retired economist, I am unconvinced by claims of economic benefits of the project. I understand that it is only marginally profitable. In any case, the market is distorted by the export contracts which prevent or restrict domestic access to the large-scale gas projects elsewhere. Surely there is room for reform here rather than adding an additional market distortion. Also, I am uneasy about extracting more fossil fuels when renewable energy is becoming more economic and technically feasible.

While having no direct contact with the Narrabri farming community, I understand many of them object to the project and fear that the wells and associated infrastructure might degrade their land or water; I certainly agree that productive farmland is more economically important than a dubious gas extraction project.

There are many other reasons why I object, but these are the personal views I feel most strongly about. I hope you reject the project.

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