

Malcolm and Julie Gilfillan
"Warawitcha"
Neringla Rd
Araluen NSW 2622
10th July 2020

Independent Planning Commission of NSW
Level 3, 201 Elizabeth St
Sydney NSW 2000

Re: Narrabri Gas Project (SSD - 6456)

We wish to record our objection to this project.

We have six grandchildren all under ten years old. In twenty five years (the suggested duration of the Coal Seam Gas (CSG) extraction in the Pilliga) they will likely be thinking about the environment that their own children can look forward to.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has warned that the burning of fossil fuels must be curtailed rapidly if catastrophic global warming is to be avoided. Indeed we must achieve net-zero emissions and commence drawing down atmospheric carbon dioxide equivalents(CO₂e) to less than 350ppm. The current CO₂e in the atmosphere is 412ppm. Already climate scientists are beginning to use terms such as "climate crisis" and "planetary collapse".

Apart from arguments relating to anthropogenic global warming there is a variety of risks relating to CSG extraction and some, such as the escape of fugitive gas into the atmosphere, cannot be quantified. Modelling suggests that fugitive gas escape may render energy from CSG dirtier than energy from burning coal.

Aerial photographs of already existing CSG fields show the damage done by clearing access roads, well sites, holding ponds and pipe lines. Biodiversity suffers. So it seems ludicrous to have a gas field juxtaposed with a joint venture between the National Parks and Wildlife Service and Australian Wildlife Conservancy aimed at halting the loss of biodiversity.

Surely NSW could take the lead in Australia in rapidly planning a speedy but orderly transition to clean energy. And Australia could set an example for the other new world developed economies - USA and Canada.

We believe that it is imperative that no new fossil fuel exploitation be permitted.