

**From:** [John Fitzgerald](#)  
**To:** [IPC Enquiries Mailbox](#)  
**Subject:** Narrabri Gas Project  
**Date:** Thursday, 16 July 2020 10:26:45 PM

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Dear Independent Planning Commission,

This is a submission on the Narrabri Gas Project.

Santos plans to develop 850 coal seam gas wells across 95,000 hectares in the North Eastern part of the Pilliga Forest near Narrabri, clearing 1000 hectares of forest.

How can this be a sensible proposition in our present Climate Change emergency ?

where trees / forest reduce our carbon emissions and....

Why is the Federal Government supporting another Fossil Fuel Project in the knowledge that Coal Seam Gas and Coal Seam Gas extraction are the #1 cause of Climate Change and the resulting Greenhouse effect on our planet ?

After the disastrous Summer Bushfires, which struck with an intensity never seen before due to drought and changing weather patterns caused by Climate Change, HOW CAN THIS LIBERAL NSW GOVERNMENT EVEN CONTEMPLATE SUPPORTING COAL SEAM GAS [ the filthiest of all fossil fuel extraction ] and the most expensive in its use of precious ground water. The electorate need to question the motive behind the NSW Liberal Government approval of this reckless Santos proposal. It is well known Santos pays both Liberal and Labour parties political donations for their support to continue their extraction of coal and coal seam gas.

Further problem to this CSG approval, Santos will remove 37.5 billion litres of water from the Great Artesian Basin, which would lower the water table and risk depressurising this vital resource. The Narrabri Gas Project would risk groundwater in the "recharge area" of the Great Artesian Basin. This groundwater sustains farms and communities across inland Australia. There will be >500,000 tonnes of toxic salty waste produced from this project, for which Santos has no disposal plan.

The project would require pipelines through farms and Aboriginal sites, against the wishes of landholders and Traditional Owners. It is a haven for endangered species and is sacred to the Gamilaraay people.

Across 3.2 million hectares of North West NSW, community surveys show that 96% of people wish to remain gasfield free.

The Narrabri gasfield would destroy jobs in other local industries ; for every job created in the CSG in Queensland, 1.8 jobs were lost in agriculture and 0.9 jobs lost in the service sector.

Santos is causing high gas prices in Australia. They export our gas so now we compete on the international market and pay world prices. Since 2014, gas production in Australia has tripled, yet so have gas prices. Australian gas consumers are being ripped off by Santos.

Toxic waste water and drilling fluids are known to spill and leak contaminating water and ecosystems. In the Pilliga, Santos has already been fined for contaminating an aquifer with uranium and other heavy metals and for a spill of 10,000 L of wastewater that caused a forest "dead-zone" which is still un-remediated 10 years later.

With the Arctic Circle on fire at 38 degrees Celsius, the last thing we need is our Great Artesian Basin damaged by Coal Seam Gas and the deadly Greenhouse gases escaping causing further emissions and fueling climate change. Understandably and with good reason, Victoria has banned the out of control extraction process of Coal Seam Gas.

Thankyou for the opportunity to comment on the Narrabri Gas Project and sincerely hope that it is disallowed in favour of saving our planet and the future of our children.

Jennifer Fitzgerald - Tea Tree Oil farmer, Northern Rivers