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To: [IPCN Enquiries Mailbox](#)
Subject: Submission of Objection to the Santos Narrabri Gas Project
Date: Friday, 17 July 2020 12:44:58 PM

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am making a submission about the Narrabri Gas Project.

I'm happy for my name and submission to be available on your website.

My prime objection is simple. Santos asserts that it can stop the water from the coal seams below mixing with the water from the Artesian Basin above, and that it can stop water from the Artesian Basin sinking into the coal seams and becoming available.

Assuming this is correct. I think it is unlikely that anyone can guarantee that these barriers will survive for hundreds of years, or that the company will still be around and able to take responsibility for policing and repairing these barriers. Concrete decays, metals corrode.

Costs of repair will be left to taxpayers. Indeed the company has no real incentive to insure that they solve this problem forever, because they know they will not face a burden if the waters mix in a hundred years.

However, agriculture has to think in terms of hundreds, maybe even thousands of years. If the Artesian waters are polluted or lost, then there is no other reliable water supply for Narrabri and its regions.... Farming will end. The town will end.

Furthermore the loss, or pollution, of the waters will likely be gradual, and only noticed when it is too late to do anything.

If we thought in ecological terms, and of the future of Australia, we would not engage in this kind of mining.

Yours sincerely

Jonathan Paul Marshall