

Office of the Independent Planning Commission NSW  
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Dear Independent Planning Commission,  
This is a submission objecting to the Narrabri Gas Project.

My name is Keren Skyring and I have a family connection to the Pilliga area. My mother and grandfather were born at Angledool which is north west of the Pilliga. My son in laws family are from the Gunnedah area. I have seen koalas in the primary school playground at Gunnedah. I have an understanding of the area and some of the unique features of it. Farmland and safe water supplies are vital to the people and agriculture of the region. The Pilliga Forest is within the Great Artesian Basin area and I worry about the impact of this project on the water supply that is so important for one of the food bowls of Australia.

I am a grandparent of 3 small children and feel strongly that we need to do all that we can to preserve the few remaining natural areas of the state. The Pilliga is one of the most western green areas in NSW. The Cyprus Pine forest there is relatively unique. It has been logged but it is regenerating and provides habitat for many rare and endangered creatures including the magnificent Glossy Black Cockatoo, the Black-striped Wallaby and the tiny Pilliga Mouse.

If the forest is broken up with roads and gas drill holes it will fragment the forest for the many creatures that live there. Having travelled widely in my younger years I have realized that few countries in the world have any idea what natural environments even are. The people do not know what vegetation was there even 200 years ago. We are fortunate enough to know what wild country is. Forests and natural areas are vital for the survival of native animals and plants. The rate of extinction of rare and endangered species in Australia will continue to escalate unless we prevent the development and disruption of our remaining natural areas.

There is overwhelming evidence that climate change is escalating. The use of coal and gas fired power causes increases greenhouse gas emissions and unpredictable weather patterns. NSW is well placed to replace much of this with solar and wind power. This project is

environmentally ill advised and will do nothing to help reduce Australia's carbon emissions.

I am keeping this short despite the fact that there are so many arguments against the Narrabri Gas Project. I thank you for the opportunity to comment and look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards

Keren Skyring