

**From:** [Jim & Jeanette Matchett](#)  
**To:** [IPCN Enquiries Mailbox](#)  
**Subject:** Narrabri Gas Project Objection  
**Date:** Sunday, 9 August 2020 7:52:10 PM  
**Attachments:** [jandimatchett.vcf](#)

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Independent Planning Commission,

Dear Commissioners

We object strongly to the Narrabri Gas Project for the risks of damaging the Great Artesian Water Basin.

Our family agricultural property dates back pre Artesian water. Settled in 1889. The stories of the 1902 drought without water have been passed down through the family. Water drilling in 1902 and the open bore drains of the GAB water in conjunction with earth dams served as our stock & domestic until this decade. In 2004 and again in 2007 we took up the Gov't Cap & Piping Scheme. 60% privately funded 40% Gov't assistance. An investment we appreciate daily and also saving large amounts water.

Water is Life. Energy can be produced in many different ways, but without good quality water, life is difficult. The Pilliga is a large recharge basin for the Great Artesian Base and should be protected to continue to recharge as it has for millions of years.

In March 2020 the NSW Planning, Industry & Environment held a Artesian Bore Water Trustee & public meeting to inform all of the proposed 2020 GAB water sharing plan.

[www.industry.nsw.gov/water/plans-programs/water-sharing-plans/water-sharing-plans-on-public-exhibition/gab](http://www.industry.nsw.gov/water/plans-programs/water-sharing-plans/water-sharing-plans-on-public-exhibition/gab)

As there are estimated water savings from the GAB, there are proposed plans for water to be traded on the open market. The water sharing plan proposed to revise down the Basic Landholder Rights Requirement of the Surat, Warrego & Central Basins allocation and increased the extraction limits of the Eastern Recharge Basin by 1200megs. Southern Recharge basin (the Pilliga area) has been increased by a massive 350% that is 10,500 meg increase.

Only a few weeks later we were informed the NSW Gov't has extended the license for the High Pressure Gas Pipeline from Qld gas fields to the Hunter and Santos expanding their Gas production at Narrabri. A dot to dot plan is linked.

This is the same generation of bureaucrats that planned the Murray-Darling Basin Plan, that has not with stood an Australian drought.

Please protect GAB Water for all of Australia not just for the partnership of Mining & present day Governments.

There is so much evidence of the damage the Gas Mining Companies have done to the environment, water, human health, community & social decline, landholder rights, noise pollution, chemical contamination of rivers & aquifers, the list goes on, both here in Australia & countries overseas. Santos have not corrected all the recommendations set out in the Chief Science Report in 2014. Six years, yet our Government

Departments still O K's the proposed expansions of the industry.  
Please stop this madness.

The Insurance Industry realizes the risks of the Gas Industry, removing  
the public liability from farms with Gas wells, this will affect a  
landholders borrowings for future enterprises.

Why would a project be given the go ahead with unproven waste management  
issues? Once again a Gov't that has strick environmental laws for one  
sector but can approve licenses for other enterprises.

We thank you for our consideration on this matter.

The future is in your hands

Yours Sincerely

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