

Publishing permitted

Colleen. M. Fraser
782 Mudfords Rd
Breeelong, Gilgandra,
N.S.W. 2827
2nd August 2020

Attn: IPC Chair, Steven O'Connor
Office of Independent Planning Commission
Level 3, 201 Elizabeth St,
Sydney, NSW 2000.

This is an addition to my submission of OBJECTION to the Narrabri Gas Project. 24th July 2020.

My name is Colleen Fraser, I presented from Narabri Studio on Tuesday 21st July 2020. I have also posted my Submission on the 24th July 2020. I watched the 2nd EPIE presentation and I felt I needed to make some additional comments to my Submission.

I would like to say that you, as the panel of the Independent Planning Commission, must get extremely frustrated when you give departments a number of opportunities to clear up important questions and there are still no definite confirmed answers.

My Presentation to the commission, at Narrabri, was to stand up for the Gilgandra and other surveyed communities in the NW of NSW. These community statistics are definite answers on how 98.09% of Gilgandra District and overall 96% of NWNSW feel about the Narabri Gas Project. We, collectively, have answered a definite question as to whether Santos has Social Acceptability and a Social License to continue with this unconventional industry. **That answer is, "NO"**.

My Submission, posted on 24/07/2020. In my Submission to address Santos' EIS in May 2017, I asked a significant amount of questions to find out how Santos was going to deal with a number of important issues ie: fire risk from flaring etc, water drawdown, salt disposal, employment and insurance. My husband also dealt with the number of phrases which just made definite answers to outcomes extremely uncertain. For the EIS there were a record number of over 22,000 submissions having very similar concerns. There has been an unexpected amount of Presenters at the hearing (needing extra days) and again, an unprecedented amount of Submissions. I expected when the IPC assessment came out that all the questions put forward to the EIS would have been significantly researched and answered. Instead we still get all the same uncertain answers containing words such as, likely, unlikely, manageable, uncertainty, if, can, avoidably and unlikely even if the **modelling is wrong**.

The EPIE, Mr Kitto, presented to the commission on 20th July, they then met with the panel on 28th July, they then presented again on 1st August 20 and were questioned by the panel on a number of concerns brought up by previous presenters. In the 1 & ¾ hours Mr Kitto, and his supporting EPIE people, spoke they used the words above repeatedly and have given no significant confirmation of the questions answered.

FIRE RISK:

The Narrabri Gas Project has a permit for 24/7 flaring even in high risk fire restricted times and catastrophic conditions. The speakers explained that flaring would only occur on particular occasions, however, they now flare most of the time. It was said that this flaring gas **could** be diverted to the power station and this **could** alleviate the flaring issue. Santos has been making it known that they supply gas to the power station for Narrabri, and have been for some time, so **why** are they still flaring?

Threat of bush fires. They said that things **can** cause fires but **on the basis of the assessment** the chances are remote. Were these people living under a rock during the approximate 6 months of catastrophic fires ripping down the East Coast of Australia in 2019 -2020. Those fires started in times when there were no fire restrictions. Started by lightning strikes, became so ferocious that they jumped numerous highways and widened fire breaks and fire balls were bouncing around reigniting areas with wind changes. Fire fighters risked their lives and lost their lives and homes. **Mr Kitto said Santos should have fire protection equipment to take care of the gas field area.** Under our new wild fire scenarios, which we are being warned could be

*the new normal, throw in a gas field and our homes farms and livelihoods don't stand a chance. Warrumbungle Fires, St Ivan – Dunedoo fires all became so uncontrollable that they couldn't even protect homes, let alone farms. This issue has no certainty. Leaves ignited in a willy willy will definitely blow and cause an ignition point under these conditions. Mr Kitto said, "Preliminary Hazzard analysis is it can be controlled, risks contained in site". **HOW?***

Water Drawdown:

Why hasn't Santos secured their water license?

Drawdown. Words like: long way from minimal uncertainties – not predicting an impact – avoidable and reversable – unlikely even if the modelling is wrong – adaptive within plan - 3 year data.

If something is avoidable it shouldn't need to be reversable.

How does three years of data tell you there will be no drawdown for over 200 years?

Mr Kitto, "Adequessy in basline data is not sufficient for prediction of future impact".

I know of farmers who are having major bore issues already and it hasn't even started production.

Salt, Contaminated Waste Disposal:

*This has been a huge issue for many years with no suggestions of efficient disposal. Santos suggested using local waste disposal facilities but there dosen't seem to be any facility prepared to take the risk in the local areas. Prof Stuart Khan is extremely concerned about any way this waste has been suggested for disposal. He mentioned dumping in the ocean. Our oceans already have very diverse ecosystems that struggle to contend with the waste that is already being disposed of in it. Instead of dealing with the issue at it's source it is easier to give this environmental disaster to someone else to deal with. **Totally Irresponsible.***

Coming up with some Company, who may be interested in using it, at the last minute is an INSULT.

They, again have no definite plans about that.

Then there is concise evidence that has been presented about CO2. Anthony Grogan.

Biodiversity:

Apparently Santos can make the farmers a lot of money through Biodiversity.

Maybe the price of having to deal with a gas field in your life is not worth all that extra payment.

Employment:

*Mr Young stated that the people employed in the construction of the gas field will need to have the expertese to build what is required for this industry. **NO huge amount of jobs for the locals. FIFO.***

With locked borders and isolation due to Covid 19 this could cause many delays.

Port Kembla Gas Terminal (PKGT):

There has been much discussion about the gas prices, affordability, economic benefit coming out of Covid 19. Santos has said that if the approval goes through they could be ready to produce in approximately 2023.

When asked about the PKGT, Mr Kitto said that the approved import terminal still had to be built.

Research tells me it will only take 14-16 months to build which could put it in action by early 2022. It is reported to be cheaper gas and be a much more environmentally viable alternative. It is reported to be able to supply 75% of NSW annual gas needs and is a simple sollution to NSW Gas issues.

Company comprised of an Australian consortium.

MY CONCLUSION IS:

Still no answers, it isn't good enough to sort it as we go along. Risks are too great. Many more approvals to come as Mr Kitto said, Santos will have to get sign off on baseline studies etc.

They have not given you all the respect you deserve by beating around the bush and not committing to the relevant requirements of an approval. Unfortunately, they have made it look like a box ticking exercise.

When we build a home, shed or make changes to our properties we have to have all searches, fire plan, environmental plan, engineers report, soil samples, development application and building plans all done. Any structural changes need to have engineers reports. All this has to be done prior to starting the project.

WHY IS THIS NOT NECESSARY FOR SANTOS PRIOR TO APPROVAL WHEN IT IS SUCH A RISK TO TAKE.

Thankyou for the oportunity to add more information to my Submission. As you can tell, I am not scientist nor do I have University degrees. I am just like many others who can see what they have worked hard for at threat and think something needs to be done to stop it. So many normal everyday people stepping out of their comfort zone to do Presentations for the hearing, write Submissions, survey complete strangers who turn into like minded concerned friends, research and view things they never thought they would need to be worried about. I hope you make the right decision, it means so much to so many.

Signed