

Narrabri Gas Project submission

I object to the Narrabri Gas Project

Our property named 'Joranan' is neighbouring the Pilliga Forest. We are on Westport Rd and are very close, maybe less than 1 km from the closest gas well depending on placement in the proposed Narrabri gas field.

Despite living so close to the Narrabri Gas Project we have heard very little about it, we have only recently become aware of the risks. We have never been contacted by anyone from Santos, despite the fact that a map I saw recently suggests that our property could be in the gas field. We are in the area where any noise, produced water spills or gas leaks from the Dewhurst wells in Pilliga Forest will affect us. Santos cannot claim social license when they treat their neighbours in such an ignorant manner.

We are immediately down-stream from the proposed gas production area. Any produced water spills or leachate contamination from drill cuttings are likely to wash on to our pristine land. Santos have stated that they intend to leave the contaminated drill cuttings in situ on each well pad they drill. If Santos is approved with this condition that drill cuttings be left in situ we have 100% chance of contamination reaching our land. On every rain event we can anticipate further contamination as the contaminants from the drill cuttings wash onto our land, and into our dam. There have been at least 20 produced water spills in Pilliga Forest, and Santos cannot guarantee there will not be more produced water spills. We can also expect this to wash onto our land. We have an ephemeral creek flowing through our land, which supports aquatic life between rain events. I have dug down and reached water during dry times. It is one of the miracles of The Pilliga. This creek flows through the proposed gas field and onto our land.

I enjoy the dark skies and don't want coal seam gas flares to light up the skies 24 hours per day, disturbing the nocturnal native animals which we have encouraged to our land.

We purchased this 250 acre property because we wanted peace and tranquility surrounded by The Pilliga wildlife. I enjoy watching the birds, emus, kangaroos, reptiles including goanna's, frogs, turtles and insects including butterflies. My neighbour has recently had a koala on his property. I do not want the Narrabri Gas Project to destroy this beautiful place. We have a large dam which is accessed by the wildlife and we protect the vegetation for wildlife.

We live a simple life off the grid. There is very little traffic on our road, we live a quiet peaceful life. This is what we have chosen.

We do not want to live in a gas field with gas wells, pipelines, adjoining roads, noisy traffic and dust from the increased road traffic and trucks on our unsealed roads, and the noisy compression stations, as has happened to families in the Tara gas fields.

Our water supply is a 63 meters deep water bore which supplies crystal clear artesian water. Our pure clean water is among the best in Australia. We have not been offered baseline water testing, so will have no legal avenue if our water is contaminated. Without this bore we cannot continue to live on our beautiful property. We believe there is a real risk of aquifer contamination from the Narrabri Gas Project. We insist that Santos pay for baseline water testing of our bore before commencing further well drilling should the project be approved. If they contaminate our bore what is the consequence? Are we simply forced to abandon our home? We cannot live here without a water supply.

We saw an aerial photo of the clearing for the well pads that has already happened in the forest. We were shocked at the damage, to do this to 95,000 hectares of Pilliga Forest would destroy it. Trees with breeding hollows will be removed and habitat destroyed.

We had hoped to save our place for our for grandson to enjoy. He has bad asthma and he cannot cope with air contamination. If fugitive emissions cause the same damage here that they have in Tara he would never be able to visit our beautiful home again.

I ask that you reject the Narrabri Project and protect our future.

CORRINE MACKAY

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250 WESTPORT ROAD

JACKS CREEK

2390

N.S.W.