

Publishing Permitted

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Office of Independent Planning Commission of NSW.  
Level 3, 201 Elizabeth St,  
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**This is a submission of Objection to the Narrabri Gas Project.**

I strongly **OBJECT** to this project and believe it should be rejected. I sent a submission in to the EIS asking questions and have noticed in the assessment that none of my questions have been suitably addressed.

I am a farmer in the Gilgandra region and I am extremely concerned about the detrimental effect that this Project will have on our precious water resource. Wells being put into and through our groundwater aquifers cannot possibly be done without some problems developing. This proposed Gas Project is above the most important water source in the world and it should not be put at threat. **The Great Artesian Basin should not be tampered with.**

Chemically effected water will be pumped into ponds which we are told have been built to cope with any large rain event so there would be no chance of overflow or pollution. I don't believe that it is possible to predict these weather events with such surety. If it was possible to predict this, no harm would come to anyone due to torential storm events. In 2016 our rainfall doubled the average annual predictions and neither roads, paddocks nor dams could cope without severe overflow and washout. We then have had 3 years of devastating drought which has made us completely reliant on the groundwater. This year (2020) we have had more than our average annual rainfall in 6 months, more flood damage. These chemicals would be flowing into our waterways and causing catastrophic environmental damage.

I have seen no acceptable measures being put forward to deal with the disposal of salt and other toxic residues which will be a major issue to surrounding areas and will definitely need to be addressed. It has been said that Santos will be approaching local waste facilities in surrounding areas to ask them to take this waste disposal issue on. In my opinion, it is very obvious they do not have answers for this issue and are just passing an environmental hazard on to someone else to deal with. **This is highly irresponsible.**

I have read pamphlets from Santos which promote the Gasfield, one of which states that "the Project can proceed safely with minimal and manageable risk to the water and environment". Kevin Gallagher made a similar statement in he presentation on Monday which was shown on Prime 7 news.

- 1.a) I would like to know how much is minimal?
- b) Minimal in comparison to what?
2. If something is manageable then why does it need to happen in the first instance?
3. "can proceed". All the information I have read tells me there is not enough evidence given by Santos etc. to guarantee the word "can" could be used. Nothing should be approved unless it is clear all items of extreme concern are dealt with to be completely safe, without doubt. These are our lives.

Our very sustainable existence should be the highest of priorities when making decisions about this Gasfield Project. Our families' health and future in the long term are far more important than taking risks with an unconventional industry that, for the short term, has not been acceptably proven to be guaranteed safe to the community, the environment and, of course, our water.

**Please allow common sense to help you finalise this decision and reject this project.**

Signed,

