

From: [Peter Cranston](#)
To: [IPCN Enquiries Mailbox](#)
Subject: Additional public comment regarding Narrabri Gas Project
Date: Saturday, 15 August 2020 11:01:00 AM

Additional public comment regarding Narrabri Gas Project

Santos claim their use of 'best available science, expert research and opinion' to be confident it will not 'harm water resources or the environment' in their application to develop the Narrabri Gas Project. And 'risk of any significant impacts occurring is generally low and can be controlled using standard engineering practice and imposing strict conditions on Santos"

These are almost platitudes that fly in the face of one of our most eminent water resource scientists, the previous head of CSIRO's Land and Water Division. Professor John Williams states, and this I accept having read the Santos 'final submission', that there remains far too much uncertainty regarding the groundwater /aquifer contiguity and permeability. The best environmental precautionary principles argue that we should not be proceeding without clarity about the likely effects (short and longer) on the aquifer. Once damaged, it is irreparable.

Yours sincerely

Professor Peter S. Cranston
Honorary Professor ANU
ex-CSIRO