

**From:** [Denise F. Fitzgerald](#)  
**To:** [IPCN Enquiries Mailbox](#)  
**Subject:** Narrabri Gas Project Second round  
**Date:** Friday, 21 August 2020 3:39:51 PM

---

Denise Fitzgerald

85 Yarmouth Pde

Tamworth NSW 2340

21 August 2020

[fitzgeralddenisef@gmail.com](mailto:fitzgeralddenisef@gmail.com)

### **Narrabri Gas Project: Round 2 submissions**

Once again Santos' second submission fails to properly address the problem of salts.

The estimated 84,000 tonnes of salts and toxic chemicals produced during the life of the project are a threat to water, health, and the environment. These salts cannot be treated as general solid waste as salt will dissolve on contact with water. Consequently, there remains a substantial and irreversible risk as they leech into the recharge area of the Great Artesian Basin, Australia's most significant groundwater system.

Specifications and strict guidelines for safe disposal will be needed. We learned how to address this problem appropriately from an employee of City of Newcastle Council. He spoke of the technical requirements for disposal of toxic materials at their Summer Hill facility which included substantial barriers that must maintain permanent integrity. *Such salts and toxic materials were not treated as general waste.*

We know the risks to people and the environment are real. Doctors spoke of the carcinogenic impacts of many of the toxins. The Pilliga spill at Bibblewindi highlighted the toxicity of the produced water which affected two hectares of bushland. All attempts at rehabilitation have failed.

Santos stated that there were a 'substantial number of waste facilities available, including government and privately owned'. They failed to list these sites and the specific measures that would be established. Instead, prior to Phase 2 they 'will produce a plan'. With all the resources and experience at their command *they should already have a plan.*

Therefore, Santos has not convinced me of the safety of their proposal.

I continue to object to the Narrabri Gas Project.