

11 Jendi Ave
Bayview NSW 2104
13 July 2020

The Commissioner
Independent Planning Commission NSW
Level 3, 201 Elizabeth St
Sydney NSW 2000
ipcm@ipcn.nsw.gov.au

Dear Sir,

Re: NARRABRI GAS PROJECT: Wildlife, water tables and food-producing farms; NOT 850 irreversible and environmentally destructive coal seam gas wells

A decade ago, it may have been feasible to consider coal seam gas as a useful supplement in the transition from coal-based power to renewables. However, given the current and ever-increasing effectiveness and cost-efficiency of sustainable energy from wind and solar supplemented by battery storage and where necessary, by hydro, there is no longer any need, or justification, for consideration of coal seam gas. Despite NSW government support, community opinion is overwhelmingly against the Santos proposal to destroy 95,000 hectares of the unique Pilliga Forest and its threatened koala and endangered bird species as well as neighbouring productive agricultural land which in this increasingly drought-prone continent is presently well-served by the Great Artesian Basin. As well as threatening the integrity of this ancient water supply, Santos' plans include removing 1.5 gigalitres of water annually. Apart from the pollution potential this would reduce water supply needed by farmers for stock and crops.

All this, when it is increasingly more clear that to keep global warming below 2 degrees C, all fossil fuel usage must be immediately discontinued.

In summary, wildlife, water tables and food-producing farms should surely take precedence over 850 irreversibly damaging and water-guzzling coal seam gas wells. And climate change, ethical and financial considerations should take precedence over Santos' totally inappropriate greed and environmental and ecological destruction.

We implore, and are relying on, the Independent Planning Commission to ensure that common sense, science and climate change considerations mean that this destructive project with its unacceptable impact on climate, groundwater and nature, is permanently rejected.

With thanks,



Jenny Rosen
Dr Jenny Rosen AM
Cc

Hon Matt Kean Environment Minister
Hon Rob Stokes Member for Pittwater, Minister for Planning and Public Spaces