

**Submission  
No 73**

## **SUSTAINABILITY OF ENERGY SUPPLY AND RESOURCES IN NSW**

**Name:** Mr Doug Storer

**Date Received:** 5 September 2019

Hi

I have added my opinions to this generic letter which I agree with.  
Please read.

Please accept this submission to the Inquiry into Energy Supply and Sustainability in NSW.

Thanks for the opportunity to submit to this inquiry.

I live in Warren and our region wants the opportunities that renewable energy and diversification can bring.

The current drought conditions are making many people look at possible ways to sure up income and solar farms may be one way to enable farmers to generate that income without the destruction coal mining and Coal Seam Gas place on us.

It's crucial that the community is given the opportunity to lead the changes we need for our region, with strong public investment and policy support from the government.

Global warming, whether real or not, is going to make coal and coal seam gas redundant in the near future. These destructive industries are a short term fix only benefiting some with vested interests and mainly multi national companies from overseas. Why?

Renewable energy production is an industry that can support Australia and Australians into the foreseeable future. It is time to support it.

I'd like the Committee to hold a public hearing for this inquiry in our region.

I'm concerned because mining and CSG is putting our water resources at risk. For example:

We are currently in our third year of drought. This has not happened since European settlement of Australia. We would not be here, 50km north of Warren NSW' if we didn't have artesian water. Coal mining and CSG will destroy our water and leaving one third of NSW decimated.

Santos has already polluted water on a number of occasions as part of the Narrabri CSG project, and if approved, the 850 well production project would put the recharge zone for the Great Artesian Basin at risk and produce vast amounts of toxic salt waste

I want clean and affordable renewable energy and job opportunities for our region that doesn't sacrifice our rural communities, groundwater and public health.

I would like to see regional diversification plans developed to support our communities to plan for new industries and build on existing strengths, mapping out a pathway to harness renewable energy opportunities for the long-term.

Expert modelling of renewable potential in north-west NSW has found we could produce 622MW of electricity from solar power, exporting energy to the national electricity market and creating 500 permanent local jobs by 2030.

That's the future I want for my region - not more damaging coal mines and new gasfields that would put our water at risk and make things even worse for our communities who are already faced with the dire reality of severe drought and a changing climate.

Regards Doug Storer