

Submission
No 380

INQUIRY INTO COAL SEAM GAS

Name: Name suppressed

Date received: 7/09/2011

Partially Confidential

Submission to the Parliamentary Inquiry into Coal Seam Gas.

Our family live on a small farm that is located midway between historic and the rural centre of . The decision to raise a family and invest in property was based on the area's natural beauty, clean waterways, rural landscape and temperate climate.

Last year mining surveillance planes buzzed our valley, gridding the landscape. This was our first indication that mining activity may become a reality in our beautiful niche.

Since this time we have learnt that a neighbour is negotiating with a coal seam gas mining company. This news was devastating.

We feel very strongly that the Manning Valley is not a suitable place for this type of industrial land use. It has prompted us to join with others to form the Manning Alliance in order to educate ourselves and inform others as to the issues surrounding coal seam gas extraction.

The side effects of Coal Seam Gas extraction are potentially very damaging to us individually, to the land and our community.

At stake is our health, wealth and well being.

Property values in our agricultural neighborhood will decline, traffic will increase on already crumbling rural roads, rural land will be lost to agricultural production in an area that has the idea temperate climate to grow a wide variety of food that is close to markets and transport links. The divisiveness within our small community caused of this massive change of land use will mirror what has already occurred in Gloucester.

The Manning Alliance submission which I have collaborated with others to produce is attached and our family supports its contents.