

**Submission  
No 178**

## **INQUIRY INTO COAL SEAM GAS**

**Name:** Mrs Elizabeth Starkey and Mr Hugh Starkey

**Date received:** 02/09/2011

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HT & EM Starkey t/as  
**COUGAL PARK BED AND BREAKFAST**

ABN 56 572 803 996

2nd September 2011

We, Elizabeth May Starkey and Hugh Talbot Starkey make this submission to the CSG Inquiry, to express our concerns on the industry in general, and, in particular, the proposed Lions Way Pipeline.

Our property, most of which is covered by a Voluntary Conservation Agreement, is situated at [redacted], and will be impacted severely should this proposal be approved and constructed. We have worked for 10 years to establish a small conservation based tourism business.

The area affected by the pipeline on the Lions Road is the habitat of many threatened and endangered species or fauna. Within 5km of the proposed pipeline, (some within metres of the road) are the following: Koala, Alberts Lyrebird, Glossy Black Cockatoo, Yellow Bellied Glider, Hastings River Mouse, Eastern Chestnut Mouse, Eastern Bristlebird, Coxen's Fig Parrot, Barking Owl, Sooty Owl, Brush Tailed Phascogale, Rufus Bettong, Bush Hen, Masked Owl, Powerful Owl, Red Goshawk, Rose Crowned Fruit Dove, and Wompoo Fruit Dove, plus many more.

This pipeline is proposed to go under and beside Grady's Creek which is a main feeder for the Richmond River, which provides water for many communities downstream. Construction is through unstable mountain terrain, within a narrow Road Reserve, and under a road which was constructed

by volunteers, possible erosion will affect the quality of water in Grady's Creek, and affect the safety of the road which we believe will be closed for 4-6 months for construction. This road is a major route for people travelling to the small community of Kyogle, and the Border Ranges National Park.

Consultation with landowners has to date been minimal.

This pipeline should not be constructed.

We add our voice to the call for a full and open moratorium on all of the Coal Seam Gas Industry, until it can be proven that there will be no ill affect on the environment, native species, water, both underground and river systems from salt and chemicals, and the health of the general population.

We also ask for more public consultation, and the right for landholders to refuse to allow CSG exploration and access for production on their land, and that exploration not be permitted in sensitive forest areas, productive land, that the storage and disposal of saline and chemically contaminated water be stopped, and that the use of chemicals in the mining process be banned.

Elizabeth and Hugh Starkey