

**Submission
No 747**

INQUIRY INTO COAL SEAM GAS

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Date received: 6/09/2011

Coal seam gas mining has the potential to permanently contaminate underground aquifers with toxic chemicals, both from fluids used to "frack" the seam, and from releasing dangerous substances already contained in the coal seam into adjacent aquifers. Testing for contamination is expensive and not always possible.

We should join nations like France with the common sense to completely ban hydraulic fracturing. A lot is not known about the precise locations and interconnectedness of aquifers and coal seams. Do not be fooled by slick PR operations.

Recent studies prove CSG emissions are comparable or worse than coal mining when inevitable methane leaks are accounted for.

Watch the movie Gasland for more information.

here is a link to a NASA study showing just how potent methane is as a greenhouse gas;
<http://www.giss.nasa.gov/research/news/20091029/>

It is time to defend our long term food production over short term mining profits!