

Submission
No 323

INQUIRY INTO COAL SEAM GAS

Name: Ms Mandy De Vries

Date received: 7/09/2011

Mandy de Vries

RECEIVED

- 7 SEP 2011

LEGISLATIVE
COUNCIL

5th September 2011

Coal Seam Gas Inquiry
General Purpose Standing Committee

Dear Senators,

I fear that coal seam gas will be the new asbestos.

Only in hindsight will we see the full picture of its destruction of our way of life in rural and regional areas.

The scale of the proposed coal seam gas industry horrifies me. It's not a small area of the state that's going to be affected but a huge proportion with hundreds of thousands of wells.

Too big to monitor the health & environmental effects.

Too big to rehabilitate the scars, chemical ^{damage} ~~leakage~~ & gas leaks

Too big to pay compensation for all of the destruction it will bring.

Most of the mined gas will be going overseas to places like China. In China coal seam gas mining is banned

I understand that farmers whose stock is affected with the coal seam gas chemicals are themselves liable for that contamination in the meat.

Near where I live is a gas well & the creek nearby has chemicals in it that come from the well. A local woman pays for water testing herself because she can't get any

authorities to do it. The gas company denies any liability because she can't prove that they caused the poisoning, because she doesn't know all of the chemicals they use & they refuse to disclose the names of the chemicals. They do this so that they can't be monitored.

They tell people who complain that they have hundreds of lawyers, & how many do the individual people have?

The jobs that will come with the gas mining (especially initially, then reducing), will be nothing compared to the many current vital honest hardworking livelihoods that will be reduced or destroyed.

In 20 or 30 years what will we see? Poisoned & contaminated water & air, & gas leaking up from the ground probably forever. People's health destroyed. And, no sign of the gas company bosses or their representatives, or their magnificently clever & persuasive public relations firms.

I fear that coal seam gas will be the new asbestos.

Yours faithfully,