

**Submission
No 825**

INQUIRY INTO COAL SEAM GAS

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There will be unavoidable impacts on the natural environment by the extraction of coal seam gas drilling. The water table is at risk of pollution through the fracking process and the water resource in many areas will be depleted.

There is evidence of social impacts on communities where drilling companies are active. Apart from providing jobs there are many people whose livelihood is being taken away from them.

All applications must be subjected to the EPA act and any Part 3 exclusion must be withdrawn. It is unacceptable that mining is being given exclusion from the environmental safeguards that are essential. Destroying valuable agricultural land for short-term export dollars is economic madness. Our future survival rests on our food production.