

**Submission
No 908**

INQUIRY INTO COAL SEAM GAS

Organisation: Kiama Municipal Council

Date received: 10/01/2012



KIAMA MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

Phone Enquiries:
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Reference:
File No – T43.021.000

22nd December 2011

Coal Seam Gas Enquiry
General Purpose Standing Committee No 5
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000



Dear Sir / Madam,

NSW Coal Seam Gas Inquiry

Please accept this late submission from Kiama Municipal Council. Kiama Municipal Council welcomes the opportunity to comment on the NSW Legislative Council Coal Seam Gas (CSG) inquiry by the General Purpose Standing Committee no. 5. Kiama Municipal Council LGA has a wealth of natural and productive land areas, and is an extremely popular tourist destination, heavily reliant on the Sydney Catchment Area for its water supply. With this in mind, Council makes the following points regarding the future expansion of the CSG industry in the Kiama LGA. These points were adopted at the Kiama Council meeting on 13th December 2011:

1. Council expresses its concern that the short and long term environmental impacts of CSG activities are not well understood at either the State wide or regional level. Kiama Municipalities' urban communities are totally reliant on both water quality and water quantity from the Sydney Catchment areas and any increased risk to the security of this water supply is unacceptable
2. Council urges the State Government to rule out CSG activities in water catchment areas and on prime agricultural land. Council recommends that in water catchment areas the NSW Policy position on CSG activities acknowledges that the existence of a resource such as CSG does not mean that the resource should be utilised, particularly when there are other important values which should take precedence such as water supply security and quality
3. Council acknowledges that there is community concern and opposition to CSG in the Illawarra

Yours faithfully

Byron Robinson
Acting Manager Environment and Health

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