

**Submission
No 463**

INQUIRY INTO COAL SEAM GAS

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GSG has too many dubious questions to answer to make it an environmentally safe proposition. These are

1. Water impacts. 110 gas wells in Gloucester produces one olympic swimming pool of waste water per day.

The National Water Commissioner states the CSG industry presents significant risks to water and our water management as a result of the scale of the development of the sector. This waste water is saline and contains naturally occurring chemicals held safe within the coal seam and if released to surface water systems, could alter flow patterns and have devastating impacts water quality, wetlands and rivers.

On August 4th NSW Environment Minister issued a formal warning to AGL in relation to an uncontrolled gas and water release at a CSG well near Campbelltown. This Rosalind park Plant has polluted over three years with sulphur oxides.

Fracking risks polluting fresh water aquifers with chemicals and has been banned in France (where they care about their Farmers who produce their food), suspended in Great Britain and Canada.

2. Surface impacts can include undermining of agricultural land, disruption of the environmental values of bushland. Such is the consequence of infrastructure required.

3. Food security. Our most productive agricultural land is at risk. Liverpool plains, Mooree Plains. Sydney basin. Hawkesbury area, Southern Highlands, Central West and Mid North Coast.

4. Social impact. Mining companies have the law on their side and divide communities by being able to force their way onto private land, Land values are destroyed with whole communities in limbo for years. Farms are destroyed without compensation leaving people to live in a CSG field without money and in serious danger with regards their health.

5. Is it worth it? NO WATER NO FARMS NO FOOD PRODUCTION NO FOOD SECURITY.

NSW Gov, receives 0% Royalty for 5 years peak production occurs in the first few years 2010 royalties were \$462,000.00, How much from agriculture I wonder.

We cannot risk it. Please act to protect our food & water security and our health these are the three things necessary for life.