

**Submission
No 58**

INQUIRY INTO COAL SEAM GAS

Name: Ms Christine Clark

Date received: 29/08/2011

I am proud to belong to the state which is conducting the widest-ranging enquiry ever into the Coal Seam Gas mining industry in Australia. As a concerned citizen of NSW I make the following submission:

We are ideally situated in this state to create a clean energy future and to decrease our dependence on polluting forms of power generation. Recent research is showing that renewable energy is much more cost effective than previously thought, with profit potential and environmental advantages which could help to ensure the future well-being of all in our community.

I request that the following measures are implemented in the interests of our democratic rights and public safety:

1. A full moratorium on all forms of coal seam gas drilling until the environmental, social and health impacts have been rigorously and independently assessed.
2. Coal seam gas exploration and mining to be made subject to all relevant environmental legislation, including the native vegetation and water management laws.
3. The provision of standing to ensure that the community has full legal rights to challenge and enforce environmental laws under which coal seam gas companies are operating.
4. The provision of a right in the Petroleum (Onshore) Act to allow landholders to refuse consent for coal seam gas exploration or production on their land.
5. A prohibition on coal seam gas exploration and mining in important bushland, valuable farmland, groundwater aquifers, residential areas and public lands.
6. A requirement that all chemicals used in coal seam gas drilling or fracking must be assessed by the chemical regulator for use for that purpose before being approved for use.

Thank you for the opportunity to be heard on this important issue.

Yours sincerely,
Christine Clark