

INQUIRY INTO COAL SEAM GAS

Name: Name suppressed

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Partially Confidential

SUBMISSION – COAL SEAM GAS MINING

I don't want coal seam gas mining done in Australia & I object to gas resources being mined primarily for overseas countries.

Coal seam gas mining will destroy our country. The last & present government knows the environmental risks with Coal seam gas mining, yet still intends to proceed.

Thousands of coal seam gas mining licenses were approved over a very short time period. This has resulted in mining companies coming out in mass with the result that the community is fractured in small groups trying to save their local environment from these mining giants.

It annoys me that we need to write submissions pleading with the government to see sense on this issue. We only need to look at what is happening in the USA to see our future. It makes no difference if it is shale gas mining or coal seam gas mining. The environmental damage is the same. The damage to ground water is the same. The damage to people's health is the same. We have the technology for renewable energy now so why not pursue this?

Coal seam gas mining in Australia is already damaging environments & poisoning groundwater. Once ground water is affected, that's it. It cannot be remediated. This fact alone should be enough for the government to say no.

Coal seam gas mine licenses have been granted for national parks. I am furious about this. Coal seam gas mine licenses have been granted in inner Sydney & in the outer suburbs. I am furious about this. Coal seam gas mine licenses have been granted in our farms with the result that farmers have to fight to prevent the mining companies access to their land. I am also furious about this.

50,000,000 tonnes of salt that needs to be stored somewhere is also a massive issue. You cannot allow the mining companies to put this salt underground.

The industry is dirty. The industry is toxic. The industry does not care about the environment, farmers, rural or city people, national parks, wildlife, ground water, toxins, waste or other sorts of pollutants.

The mining companies sell jobs to the government, but what they are really selling is the killing off of Australia for overseas profit. This country will only get short-term gain & long-term serious problems from coal seam gas mining.

Then there is the issue of climate change. The community is not buying the propaganda that coal seam gas is cleaner than coal. It's the same dirty energy & is potentially more environmentally destructive than coal. The reality is coal seam gas mining has the same greenhouse emissions as coal over a 20-year period. This is scientific fact.

I don't want coal seam gas mining in Australia. Our country has finite resources & to allow overseas countries to come & mine our gas resources over 20-years until it is all gone is poor forward thinking by our government. Unfortunately, I don't have much hope that the community can stop our government from proceeding with coal seam gas mining because you have already given out so many thousands of licenses behind the community's back & without consultation.

I request

1. a moratorium on coal seam gas exploration & production
2. a thorough investigation into the environmental & health impacts of the coal seam gas industry.
3. That coal seam gas mining does not go ahead in Australia.
4. That the government gets serious about mitigating climate change & puts money & resources into renewable energy. We don't have much time left.

Thank you for the opportunity to put in a submission.