

Submission
No 510

INQUIRY INTO COAL SEAM GAS

Name: Ms Margaret MccUe

Date received: 7/09/2011

I am extremely concerned by the apparent unregulated invasion of the Australian country side by coal gas seam miners. They appear to operate unregulated wherever they please without being constrained by any duty of care obligations, to land, waterways, aquifers residents, workers, animals, marine life, or urban water storage systems.

A recent report estimated that within the next 10 to 20 years regional Queensland will see the number of wells rise from 4,000 to 30,000.

Following that unregulated lead a similar expansion can be expected in New South Wales.

Scientists are anticipating that vast areas of the countryside will be turned into heavily salt contaminated areas which will kill all vegetation and make them uninhabitable.

Right now briny underground water extracted to get at the gas hidden in coal seams is stored in evaporation ponds.

As the industry expands the levels of salt production is estimated to reach 30 million tonnes ...the question of what to do with the salt is one which has to be dealt with now.

This inquiry should also deal with the industry's future serious impact on public health.

Sincerely

Margaret McCue,