

**Submission
No 814**

INQUIRY INTO COAL SEAM GAS

Name: Mr Jim Rourke

Date received: 8/09/2011

8/9/11

Submission to CSG Inquiry

To whom it may concern,

As landholders in Bobin, located on the junction of two pristine creeks, Bobin and Dingo Creek, we are very concerned about the rampant expansion of the Coal Seam Gas industry and the damage it may do to creeks, aquifers, land and communities.

The process of "fracking" is highly controversial. The industry itself has admitted that it cannot guarantee that underground water systems will not be adversely affected, as the very nature of the process of fracking is unpredictable. Associated problems of chemical use, storage of "produced water" and potential health risks make the technology too risky. While the end product of gas may be a cleaner option than coal, this does not take into account the risks to the environment involved with its extraction and transportation. The Manning Valley has prided itself on its "clean, green" image, which would be annihilated by the construction of wells, installation of pipelines and extensive use of heavy vehicles, which would transform the region into an industrial wasteland.

Above all, communities are opposed to Coal Seam Gas. Rhetoric provided by mining companies and politicians about "renewing rural communities" is clearly propaganda, as we have never seen our community so united about any issue. We reject Coal Seam Gas exploration and production in the Manning Valley. We wish to preserve the natural qualities and exceptional clean water resources of our region.

Yours sincerely,

Jim and Clare Rourke