

**Submission
No 243**

INQUIRY INTO COAL SEAM GAS

Name: Mr Brett Findlay

Date received: 3/09/2011

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to show my concern for the drilling for coal seam gas. Especially in PEL 459 which incorporates Mt Kaputar National Park.

This area forms the headwaters of many tributaries to the Namoi and Gywder river systems. It also has extremely complex geology owing to its volcanic past. The risks to aquifers, including the Great Artesian Basin, and surface water is too great to allow drilling on the scale needed to extract methane from coal seams.

I have worked for 20 years to fence off and protect creeks and water ways on my farm in the foothills of the Nandewar Ranges. My family and I have made a humble living caring for this land in good times and bad. The farm has been held by our family for 90 years and it produces more food now than at any time in the past. We rely on both surface and underground water to continue producing that food. The form of short term profiteering displayed by coal seam gas mining companies and any Government allowing it, flies in the face of sustainability.

Thankyou for consideration of this issue.

Brett Findlay
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