

## INQUIRY INTO COAL SEAM GAS

**Name:** Name suppressed

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Partially Confidential

## **POISONING OUR PLANET**

We live in a pristine area of Northern New South Wales and CSG mining is not welcome. The fear and the anxiety that has been created by the threat of CSG mining has spread through this area. Many people are concerned about their livelihoods, their property values, the destruction of rich food growing areas, poisoning of our water, ecology and the future of our children. By all reports documentaries and scientific evidence CSG mining is a totally environment destroying activity.

Here is a list of our requests if any future CSG mining is to ever go ahead.

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.

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.

The mere fact that CSG companies, state and federal government can even contemplate embarking upon such an insidious act against humans and the environment is proof of the quality of government we have.