

**Submission
No 679**

INQUIRY INTO COAL SEAM GAS

Name: Mr Ross Durham

Date received: 14/09/2011

13-9-2011

Honourable Committee Members,

Thank you for reading my submission.

I am writing as a Food Producing Landholder on the western slopes of the Liverpool Plains, the Soil types and Climate in this region are the envy of the Country - some say the World.



Our family has been here since 1965 and involved in Agriculture for many generations prior, and needless to say farming practices have improved greatly since, and with good Stewardship could remain Sustainable for many, possibly 1000s of years PROVIDING Governments of the day VALUE LONG TERM - Sustainable food production OVER short term thinking.

My Submission relates to proposed {High Pressure} Gas Pipeline from Narrabri to Wellington.

Many affected Landholders in the proposed routes are dismayed that common sense has been thrown out the window with regard to the planning process. The methods that have been employed by the proponents have been nothing short of a disgrace. HALF TRUTHS and DECEPTION – the Hallmarks. One of my Neighbours James Bishop {whom I hold in high regard} was informed that one of the proposed routes comes within 50meters of my Homestead, I was understandably perplexed. Would ANY of YOU accept that ?

**Another neighbour John Anderson, whom I also hold in high regard, is currently Chairman of Eastern Star Gas. John's efforts in Fed Politics and to our local community are of the highest order and this is NOT an attack on him.

As you would understand Projects such as this pipeline can contribute to personal distress for those affected.

We do not understand why this is to be Forced upon us, as we Freehold Tenants paying Rates and Taxes and providing high value produce and employment.

CLEARLY there is a better alternative along the Newell Highway to Coonabarabran, then rail and road easements that are already in place to Coolah

Again I thank for your time and offer an invitation to you to come and see why we are passionate about our area

Regards

Ross Durham