

**Submission
No 830**

INQUIRY INTO COAL SEAM GAS

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The Liverpool Plains, The New Naru.

Stop the expansion of the Coal Seam Gas and Coal Industry in prime Agricultural areas now.
Stop the risk of poisoning our precious water resources and destroying our land.

We need good planning and adequate Legislation based on good science that will protect our limited clean water resources and prime agricultural land.

What is our future?

If we allow the extractive industries of coal mining and coal seam gas to expand and develop across vast tracts of prime agricultural land and the water aquifers beneath this land, we risk the destruction of these precious resources for ours and future generations.

This is a critical issue not just for our state, but for the whole of Australia.

We need to value our scarce water resources, our agricultural base, and confronted by a conflict in land use we must preserve our prime agricultural land.

The Liverpool Plains is a special and highly productive area of Australia. It has fertile black soils, underground water aquifers and the Namoi River water catchment area that is an intrinsic part of the Murray Darling water system.

How can extractive industries co_exist with clean water and productive agricultural land?

They can't, yes prioritise a major water study, but stop this madness now!

What will our Grandchildren inherit?

A dust bowl, a land devoid of fertile soil, clean water and food supplies. Is our aim to create the new Naru?

I am a Fifth Generation Farmer from the Liverpool Plains passionate about this debate and you as our Elected Representatives need to act now to protect our valuable water resources and our prime agricultural land for future generations of Australians.

Thank you for your attention to this critical issue.

Yours Sincerely

Catriona Simson.