

Submission
No 690

INQUIRY INTO COAL SEAM GAS

Name: Name suppressed

Date received: 7/09/2011

Partially Confidential

I live in Enmore, Sydney, not far from where there is a potential CSG mine in St Peters. I am concerned for myself and my neighbour's welfare. Will our water be safe? Will the vegetables I grow in my garden be safe to eat? Will it be safe to walk in the adjacent park, Sydney Park, with drilling so nearby? Will the children in the playground or nearby school be safe?

The noise from drilling, noise and pollution from trucks related to the project will be a nuisance and add to the already problematic traffic and noise pollution in the area.

For the rest of Australia, I am concerned that our food will be tainted by CSG mining.

I request:

A full moratorium on all forms of coal seam gas drilling until the environmental, social and health impacts have been rigorously and independently assessed.

Coal seam gas exploration and mining to be made subject to all relevant environmental legislation, including the native vegetation and water management laws.

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.

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.

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.