

Submission
No 22

INQUIRY INTO COAL SEAM GAS

Name: Mr Robert F Komoll

Date received: 24/08/2011

Partially Confidential

22nd August 2011

The Director,
General Purpose Standing Committee N° 5,
Parliament House,
Macquarie St,
SYDNEY N.S.W. 2000

Dear Sir/Madam,

I respectfully submit the enclosed papers as an individual Citizen and do not represent any political, producer or other lobby group. I am prompted by fear for the future of my grandchildren, who are sixth generation Australians.

Although lodged under 'Coal Seam Gas', may I please include open-cut, longwall mining and other fossil fuel recovery methods.

I am not against the development of these resources, in fact I would strongly encourage it, but not on the small fraction of Australia that is Prime Agricultural Land, such as the Liverpool Plains in N.S.W. and the Darling Downs in Queensland.

I've been pursuing this issue for many years — from when the Oil Companies conducted seismic surveys in the early 1960's. During the past three years I've become more vocal and have written to Ministers (as attached).

I have sent copies of these (and other) papers to leading young farmers in North Western N.S.W. who share my concerns. They have indicated that they will retain them for future reference - not just to say "I told you so!" but to encourage urgent discussion regarding foreign land ownership, aquifer destruction, failed rehabilitation of the black self-mulching soils, drought induced food imports and a host of other issues.

I would hate to think my grandchildren (and yours) may have to hold out the begging bowl for food grown in China, India or Brazil - or on our land owned by these and other rapidly developing nations.

We should be marketing the milk - not selling the cow.

Having recently undergone major surgery (Cardiovascular), my movements are restricted but I would love to attend the public hearings in Narrabri and Gunnedah. No firm date seems to be set as yet and I would greatly appreciate your advice when the dates are determined.

May I wish you my best for your forthcoming important deliberations.

Yours faithfully

