

**Submission
No 704**

INQUIRY INTO COAL SEAM GAS

Name: Mrs Catherine Gorman

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To Whom It May Concern

I would like to express my grave concern about the rapid movement toward coal seam gas exploration and mining in NSW, often without any information being disseminated to residents of the areas that will be affected.

I realise that there may be scope for appropriate CSG mining in NSW in some areas in the long term. However, areas where water supplies could be affected should have this moratorium extended indefinitely.

Areas of important farming or environmental value should also be indefinitely protected. Other than the need to placate mining interests there is no great urgency to proceed with CSG mining immediately. The resource will still be there in the future.

I call on the NSW government to launch a full and comprehensive enquiry into the CSG mining process and if necessary extend the moratorium until technology and mining practises are developed that allow for the safe extraction of coal seam gas.

To allow CSG exploration and mining to continue now is completely irresponsible. irreversible damage to the environment resulting in harm to human health, water quality, food producing capability and ecosystems may well result.

If CSG truly is the invaluable resource it is professed to be, those who wish to make financial gain from mining it should develop safe strategies to do so. The citizens of NSW should not pay the price in the future for the continuation of mining CSG now with the attendant known risks ignored.