

Submission
No 618

INQUIRY INTO COAL SEAM GAS

Name: Name Suppressed

Date received: 14/09/2011

Partially Confidential

I wish and ask for the following commonsense actions:

1. A full moratorium on all forms of coal seam gas drilling until the environmental, social and health impacts have been rigorously and independently assessed.
2. Coal seam gas exploration and mining to be made subject to all relevant environmental legislation, including the native vegetation and water management laws.
3. 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.
4. 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.
5. A prohibition on coal seam gas exploration and mining in important bushland, valuable farmland, groundwater aquifers, residential areas and public lands.
6. 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.
7. A further requirement that assessment & study be made of naturally occurring chemicals produced via drilling and extraction within and around the Coal Seam - PRIOR to any extraction.
8. A further requirement that if drilling is to go ahead, that adequate compensation laws be in place as well as laws to effect an immediate ceasing of this mining - should environmental damage be proven and shown.