

**Submission
No 432**

INQUIRY INTO COAL SEAM GAS

Name: Ms Leigh Butt

Date received: 6/09/2011

Early last week we were alarmed to see exploration activity being undertaken by Hume Coal just outside our fence boundary. The only notice we received regarding the exploration was a flyer jammed into our gate (significantly damaged by the weather) a few days before exploration commenced - this notice was of a very general nature and did not specify the exact location of where the exploration was taking place.

As very concerned land holders we wish to make a submission to the Inquiry. Our main concerns are as follows:

- The negative impact on our land value, which is highly important to us to provide security and dignity in our retirement.
- The visual and noise impact of the exploration and future activity on pristine rural/farmland area and the Southern Highlands.
- Potential pollution of our dam and underground water, which is vital for basic agricultural activities.
- The fact that we are in the Sydney Water Catchment Area and are extremely concerned at the potential hazard of contaminated water from mining.
- The destruction of the community culture/relationships that existed prior to this mining invasion.
- The fact that we cannot deny land access to the mining company - this is aggravated by the fact that this threat was not highlighted to us by the government when we sank our investment into the property.
- To date there has been no independent assessment of the impact of mining and the chemicals/processes used in this industry.