Submission No 29

INQUIRY INTO COAL SEAM GAS

Name: Ms Julie St. Aubyn

Date received: 26/08/2011

I am a land owner at Lynches Creek via Kyogle. I have lived in the area since 1983 and have lived at this property for 18 years. My family moved to Kyogle from the city for the healthy lifestyle and to return to my roots in the country.

We have a 22 acre farm, organic fruit tree orchard. I have raised 4 children in this local area. I am shocked and appalled by the proposed gas pipeline along the Lions Way. I have attended public meetings and seen the reports on television and heard information from people who have land in areas already affected by the gas industry.

My main concerns are for the water purity as water is life and anything that degrades the integrity of this vital resource cant be allowed to go ahead. As a farmer who produces organic produce and a parent I am very worried about the health implications for the land and environment. The noise, intrusion by heavy machinery and transport are also a concern. The short term gains far outway the detrimental effects of this type of industry.

We are living in a lush wet area, our valley regularly floods and slippage on the sloping land is a big issue. Clearing tracks of land for the pipeline will further degrade the land.

We live next to the Border Ranges National Park and choose to live isolated because we love the land and the animals that live here with us. We feel the gas industry has no place here, it is polluting and noisey. What of the horrible waste that is generated from contaminated water, where will it go???

In other parts of the country where the gas industry has already operated the land values drop, land owners cant sell their land and the idea of this beautiful part of the world being exploited and poisoned breaks my heart.