

**Submission  
No 32**

## **INQUIRY INTO COAL SEAM GAS**

**Name:** Mrs Patricia Mann

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There are major concerns with the Coal Seam Gas industry which have not been resolved

1. The process involves using vast amounts of water which returns laden with salt and other leached chemicals ; the fracking process uses toxic chemicals which add to the mix.
2. contamination of underground water by the drilling process -not with a few mines -there are thousands of mines projected all over the country
3. transport of large amounts of water to and from well sites by trucks- 95,000 thousand Litres per minute for each extraction process is not insignificant and this contaminated water must be contained- somehow?
4. Contamination of water used in the extraction process and appropriate disposal ie ponds will not hold during wet seasons or flash floods
5. leakage of gas from around well sites and from cracks underground is a threat to human and environmental health
6. methane gas is a potent greenhouse gas and the potential for leaks from 1000's of proposed wells means this type of energy will in no way mitigate the effects of climate change.
7. Disruption to communities by the intrusion of gas companies who can drill wells anywhere and everywhere they find gas is by far the most appalling abuse of power being played out in a supposed democratic country.

A recent United Nations report found that reducing shortlived pollutants such as black carbon and ground level ozone such as methane could slow the rate of climate change within the first half of this century.

I suggest this government address these issues which are already understood by people all over this state. I humbly request that you:

1. Implement a full moratorium on coal seam gas mining
2. Establish a Royal Commission to independently investigate the impacts of the industry on agriculture, community and individual health, and on the environment- including effects on surface and underground water