

**Submission
No 720**

INQUIRY INTO COAL SEAM GAS

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For thirty years we worked and toiled
To save up for a patch of soil
Enduring every urban vice
So we could buy our paradise

We hunted high and all around
To find the perfect patch of ground
That we could run while still in town
It took some time but it was found

Four years passed by and we could see
This home sweet home would always be
The place where we would hang our hat
And friends all said, Thank God for that!

The loveliest escape from town
Our friends and family all came down
They loved the simple life we shared
Then came the crunch, the thing we'd feared

While breezes lifted swallow wings
And lambs were born one perfect Spring
We looked beyond our paddocks fair
And looming large we saw it there

Up on the ridge the drilling rig
Was standing tall so mean and big
In one swift blow our dream could fall
This wasn't what we'd thought at all

The blossom pink and daffodils
Seemed sad this year up on the hills
The mining boom has come our way
And now we learn we have no say

We'll shut the gate and hold our breath
But we all know this sign is death
Our pretty land and farming life
Is under threat cause greed is rife

We beg the men who make the laws
To think again before they cause
Our precious land to be wrung bare
Through water sour and dust and fear