

Submission
No 2

**INQUIRY INTO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN THE NSW CHIEF
SCIENTIST'S INDEPENDENT REVIEW OF COAL SEAM
GAS ACTIVITIES IN NEW SOUTH WALES**

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 24 October 2019

Partially
Confidential

Please carefully consider the following points relating to the proposed Santos Narrabri coal seam gas extraction project.

Please recommend that the approval process not proceed until all the Chief Scientist's recommendations are met.

The Great Artesian Basin must be protected. Santos stated in their referral to the Federal Government in 2014 EPBC Act page 65 that depressurisation will impact the groundwater resources of the Gunnedah-Oxley Basin. This groundwater source extends from Boggabilla in the north to almost Mudgee in the south. The Santos project is located over an area classified as the Southern Recharge for the the Great Artesian Basin.

The Minimum Standards and a Merit Assessment Procedure - "use it or lose it" is not being complied with or enforced for expired petroleum exploration licences in the north west.

There are no areas in the north west that are protected from CSG extraction. Why isn't the NW of NSW being offered protection from an industry that will seriously deplete and contaminate groundwater?