

To the Senate Inquiry into Environment Protection and Biodiversity  
Conservation Amendment Bill 2013 (Provisions)

I submit that it is ABSOLUTELY CRUCIAL that a full scientific enquiry by an independent body is conducted into the affect to the water table, aquifers, saline effect, use of huge amounts of water, toxins which may be released into the water, methane released etc. THERE SHOULD BE A TOTAL MORATORIUM ON CSG IN ALL STATES UNTIL THIS HAS BEEN COMPLETED.

I applaud the House of Reps for passing this Amendment Bill.

HOWEVER, I THINK THE GLOUCESTER PROJECT APPROVAL SHOULD BE WITHDRAWN UNTIL AN ENQUIRY INTO THE IMPACTS OF CSG ON WATER SOURCES IS COMPLETE.

In fact any CSG mine which has been approved and not started should be rescinded meanwhile.

I dont think the Amendment Bill goes far enough - I THINK IT SHOULD INCLUDE AGRICULTURAL LAND AND NO CSG IN THE VICINITY OF OTHER ENTERPRISES, AT LEAST 5 KM from residential areas and villages and the impact of trucks, infrastructure etc. passing by these areas.

WE DO NOT WANT TO GO DOWN THE PATH OF A DEVASTATED LANDSCAPE AS HAS HAPPENED IN THE USA - thousands of CSG wells in a huge swathe all the way from Texas to the Canadian border!!

Santos CEO & MD said on ABC Radio National today that CSG mining has been a huge economical benefit to North America -WE DO NOT WANT TO GO DOWN THE DESTRUCTIVE PATH THAT THE US DOES ON MANY THINGS! - let us learn by their experience (see 'Gasland' doco and Jeremy Buckingham's slides from his research trip to the US recently) for evidence of what happens with this industry.

We want sustainable industries for our country, not destructive ones. We dont WANT ECONOMIC RETURNS FOR THE BIG MINERS MAKING HUGE PROFITS FOR EXECUTIVES AND SHAREHOLDERS AT THE COST OF AUSTRALIANS, THEIR LIVELIHOODS, THEIR HEALTH AND THEIR LIFESTYLES.

JOBBS CAN BE IN THE RENEWABLE ENERGY SECTION - SOLAR THERMAL, SOLAR PV AND WIND.

WATER SOURCES, ONCE RUINED, CAN NEVER BE REPAIRED.

AUSTRALIA NEEDS TO BUILD RENEWABLE ENERGY TO POWER OUR COUNTRY, NOT CSG MINING, AND FIND OTHER WAYS OF BUILDING ECONOMIC WEALTH, not exporting gas. For example, building our manufacturing industry.

Thank you. Please have the courage to protect our future generations.

Kind regards  
Barbara Thomas