

As a resident of Gloucester in NSW, I am affected by the following projects:

1) the AGL CSG project in the Gloucester Valley with 110 csg wells in Stage 1 and more stages proposed. I live less than 1km from wells

2) a proposed extension to the Yancoal Stratford open cut coal mine (decision pending)

3) a proposed new open cut coal mine, Rocky Hill, which is about to go on public exhibition

All these development in the Gloucester Valley are located on a floodplain and in the water catchment for the Manning Valley which supplies drinking water to 75,000 residents.

I encourage the government to bring the new laws to protect our water to the Senate, so they can be passed before the election.

As Gloucester is an agricultural and tourist area, groundwater is important for our famers and the local community, not only because of the need for water to produce food or fibre, but for drinking and domestic use.

The impact of coal seam gas and large coal mining on the water security of my community is immeasurable. There is no confidence in the community that water security and these mining operations can coexist.

Please provide the federal government with the means of protecting our water, through these new powers, as the track record of many State governments is poor and decisions are made for the wrong reasons without thought for the long term future.

Kind regards
Denise Gilbert