

I strongly support the legislation to give the Australian Government greater powers to prevent mining activities from damaging Australia's water resources.

Coal seam gas mining is of no net benefit and should not be permitted to continue. I have no confidence that any conditions imposed on coal seam gas mining will ensure that damage to water resources does not occur.

Not enough is known about the effects of coal seam gas mining on underground water supplies. In my view we will never have enough knowledge to be confident that damage to those supplies will not occur.

It is unacceptable that mining companies have been permitted to destroy the livelihoods of farmers.

The completely inadequate approach taken by state governments to date underlines the need for better Commonwealth legislation in this area.