

My submission is made on behalf of my countrymen, my community, my country.

In a land that already has massive problems with salinity, on a planet which the world health organization is predicting serious global water shortages within the next 50 years, in a time of irrefutable science that shows how our use of fossil fuels is drastically changing the climate, I find it quite remarkable that the federal government has given authority to the short sighted & self serving state governments to monitor a fossil fuel industry which requires billions of cubic tons of water to extract a gas that is in its raw form 20 times more potent than CO2 as a greenhouse gas. This water is then rendered utterly saline & toxic & huge scars must be made on the landscape for its evaporative storage. The mining companies say they will make good but can anyone tell me how this will be done? Will the then saline & toxic water be reinjected into the boars? Will millions of tons of fossil fuel be used to truck fresh water taken from somewhere else to be reinjected?

Its a sham, when the water is gone, its gone for a long time. This is all being done not for our benefit, but to fuel Asia's unsustainable level of growth. Because the states have given the mining companies the green light to extract & export this nonrenewable fuel as quickly & cheaply as possible, it seems Australia is even prepared to risk the great barrier reef to facilitate the miners needs. The federal government HAS to get a grip & must be given the power by the senate to do so. For the good of ALL OUR children & their children, I urge you to see the sense in this plea. The projects which have also already been given the green light by the federal environment minister, such as Gloucester but also be re-reviewed for the same reasons. This area of significant natural beauty will be a blight of shame to the current government if it is allowed to be scarred by the size of the CSG & coal projects which are planned there. The age of fossil fuels is over, it is time for a bigger thinking brave new world. Clean water, air & fuel sustains us all & there is no future without all these.

Regards,  
Scott Walters.