

Little is known scientifically about the effect CSG mining, and in particular the practice of fracking, has on the water supply of a given area. Recent news items tend to suggest CSG mining uses much of the available underground water supply, leaving the ground unsustainable for agricultural purposes. There is also a high degree of concern in my area about the effect CSG mining in Gloucester will have on the water supply for the Manning, Great Lakes and Gloucester municipalities. Mining in all its forms may contribute to Australia's wealth, but it may also cause irreparable damage to the mined land. Mining Companies can walk away from any degradation to the land caused by their practices but the landowner is forced to suffer the consequences.

As reported on ABC's 7.30 Report Tuesday 2/4/13 it is not inconceivable that CSG mining could become Australia's new asbestos. For these reasons I strongly urge that the new laws concerning CSG mining, recently passed by the House, be submitted to the Senate now, so they can be enacted before the next election. Failure to act may well result in Australia's literal inability to feed and water its citizens.

Kind regards
Barbara Edmunds