



History:

This message has been replied to and forwarded.

Dear Chief Scientist,

I would like to make a submission regarding CSG/Fracking .

Whilst CSG has not yet reached my own immediate area/property, there have been wells set in place by Metgasco in my surrounding region, and I have informed myself well enough on this health/environmental hazard to feel it my necessary duty to take personal action on this matter. In truth, a growing number of media reports by usually conservative media providers support the concern that is becoming overwhelmingly evident, which is little wonder, given the proximity of CSG/Fracking wells to some of our most important water sources, both locally and nationally.

Inadequate baseline data has been collected, and too little research has been done into the physiological health impacts, upon both humans and environment, to give this high risk industry the go ahead.

We read that there is a lack of any clinically recognizable syndrome that can be tied to this industry, and on this basis some might misguidedly assume that that confers "safe" on CSG mining, but this industry is new, and any person with even average intelligence understands that health symptoms take time to arise in relation to many toxins (ie thalidomide/lead etc) in question. Only when just so many people have been irreparably affected by a toxin does it earn the reputation it deserves, and, in the case of the CSG industry, and with regard to the very real threat to our air, water and food supply, such a delay in understanding the potential risk of this industry would prove absolutely catastrophic.

Beyond the physiological issues, too, there is the very real danger of previously unprecedented numbers of people evidencing solastalgia, a condition coined by Glenn Albrecht in 2003. Some supporters of the CSG industry have referred to solastalgia in such a way that they appear to be demeaning of those demonstrating symptoms of this syndrome, suggesting that the risk of CSG upon residents is all in their mind and therefore of little consequence, but that is entirely inappropriate. Stress is as real as melanoma, and can be just as deadly.

Glenn Albrecht explains solastalgia in these terms: "solastalgia"(is) an emplaced or existential melancholia experienced with the negative transformation (desolation) of a loved home environment.... Solastalgia, simply put, is "the homesickness you have when you are still at home". While this syndrome is not, of itself, clinically recognizable, many of its symptoms are, such as high blood pressure, mental breakdowns and debilitating heart issues resulting from ongoing stress.

Despite being appalled by this industry's processes, both as concerns the physical industry process itself and the manner in which the mining companies and their cronies (now very publicly aired) are reputed to have ingratiated themselves with relevant government representatives, I will leave that debate to others. My overwhelming concern is the health of this land and its residents. The CSG industry CANNOT state that their industry is safe to people, livestock, wildlife, water, air and land if inadequate baseline data has been accumulated. To suggest that they can is deceit, pure and simple, and, without such a guarantee, it would be foolhardy in the extreme for any government to condone a go-ahead to

this industry.

I have seen, firsthand, the effects of this industry and the unconscionable way it has been forced on unwitting and unwilling residents, and am appalled that our various governments have allowed this lack of democracy to take place. I see ongoing worry bordering on overwhelming depression or panic amongst people who understand that their homes, land, lifestyle and health are next in the firing line, and I cannot fathom how a government made up of intelligent persons can possibly not recognize this industry for what it is, a rapacious, unconscionable, grasp at our most fertile food-producing land by foreign persons for foreign benefit. The CSG industry does not serve Australia's highest good, neither in the short nor especially in the long term.

If there is a single electoral focal point in 2013, CSG, and how it impacts our water supply and wellbeing, is it.

Submissions will no doubt have been offered by real people who have real experience at the hands of this so-called 'safe' industry. What too many people, thus far unaffected, fail to realize is that a go-ahead in one region is essentially a takeover by this industry of the water that sustains our continent. Please consider the information at hand, bearing in mind that submissions will be coming in from people whose essential interest is the wellbeing of their family, their neighbours and self, as opposed to the pecuniary interest of those in the industry.

Most sincerely,

Linnie Lambrechtsen

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