



History: This message has been replied to and forwarded.

Dear Chief Scientist

I believe it is the will of the people of NSW (and Australia) that all CSG mining cease, completely and eternally. I am an informed, intelligent, educated and involved member of my local community and this nation of Australia. I know the people of my region including the local council do not want CSG. I believe there is enough evidence to demonstrate the dangers of mining gas, not to mention the affect of burning the gas on the atmosphere. It may be marginally cleaner to burn than coal but it is still a fossil fuel that pollutes via it's extraction process, and when it is used. And it not renewable. The majority of thinking people of goodwill are tired of being fed lies (or spin) designed to hoodwink and disempower them. They are tired of seeing governments be influenced by corporations because corporations have the power to keep governments in power, and because staying in power is a governments primary motivation they will ignore the will of the people they are supposed to represent.

People want a clean environment, they want to preserve the natural beauty of this planet we live on. They recognise that humanity cannot be healthy if it is cut off from the natural environment and we cannot live without beauty. We do not want to live in a contaminated environment. We do not want to live in an artificial environment. We want a clean and healthy natural environment for our children and grandchildren and beyond.

We know that a transition to a non-fossil fueled society is difficult but we want to see the powers-that-be making decisions that move us toward that end not away from it, not lying to us pretending they are making green decisions when that is just putting a spin on the facts to fool some people. But you can't fool all of the people all of the time and governments should take heed of what brought George W Bush and John Howard undone. They embraced spin doctoring to such an extreme that people saw through their lies. People aren't so easily fooled anymore.

All mining for energy should stop and renewable energy alternatives developed now, and introduced in affordable and accessible ways, now, (energy for electricity production, energy for vehicles and machinery). Obviously this cannot happen overnight and involves massive changes, but it needs to start now. We have some smart people in this country! But to it is OK to be realistic about transition strategies - set targets, use gas from the Bass Strait in the mean time, and stop all land based gas and coal mining now! Most of the CSG that is to be mined in NSW is for export not internal use so stop mining for export. Sure that means the economic paradigm has to change as well but if you look at what is happening not only in Australia but globally it is obvious that the current economic paradigm isn't sustainable either. In fact many aspects of it are ridiculously stupid (just look at what happens in the food production/food export industries) when food production is market driven (that is driven by profit maximisation not need). Economic sustainability does not mean progress and development because all progress and development depends on resources and the planet's resources are finite making such a paradigm unsustainable.

It is not enough to pretend to be taking steps toward a clean and healthy environment, economy or government. We are out of time. We have to have the courage to take big steps now. Governments need to get back in touch with the people and what is a true democratic process and remeber it is their job to serve not rule over.

Please listen to the thinking people of Australia who are motivated by goodwill, harmlessness, and caring for others and the Earth.

Yours sincerely  
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