



**Re: Review of Coal Seam Gas Activities in NSW**

**Glenn Winters** to: csg.review@chiefscientist.nsw.gov.au

26/04/2013 04:23 PM

Cc: Glenn Winters

History: This message has been replied to and forwarded.

Submission to Review of Coal Seam Gas Activities in NSW

I would like to make a submission to the CSG review by making the following points:

1. Call for broadening of the Terms of Reference

The Terms of Reference for the review should be broadened so that the Chief Scientist is tasked with:

- Commissioning rigorous independent scientific research to properly assess the risks of coal seam gas mining.
- Identifying best practice methods for baseline monitoring of health impacts, water resources, air quality, soil quality, and fugitive emissions.
- Identifying areas of NSW that should be off limits to coal seam gas, due to unacceptable risks and impacts.
- Reviewing the impacts of coal seam gas on agriculture and other affected industries such as tourism and manufacturing.

2. Address existing Terms of Reference

- Terms of Reference 2 – I am very concerned with the speed that CSG activities have progressed and the potential risks it imposes, including the lack of baseline data and on-going monitoring on health, water, air quality and fugitive emissions. The most fundamental risk management strategy must be the creation of strict no-go zones for farmland, water resources and important bushland.
- Terms of Reference 3 – I believe NSW should be following best practice in CSG management and should include a minimum 5km exclusion from residential zones, a minimum 2km exclusion from all residential dwellings, mandatory health impact assessments, and the right for communities to say no. The community must have a right of veto over big CSG mining companies.
- Terms of Reference 6 – what is needed is independent scientific research to assess the risks from coal seam gas operations and comprehensive baseline monitoring, not more information sheets. We need to understand not only what is going on above the surface but also what is happening to our ground water resources.

Kind regards,

Glenn Winters

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