

98 Tuntable Creek Road  
The Channon  
NSW 2480  
20<sup>th</sup> Oct 2012

The Premier  
The Hon Mr Barry O'Farrell MP  
GPO Box 5341  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

CC: every NSW parliamentarian

Dear Premier O'Farrell,

**RE: Communities of The Channon, Terania and Tuntable Falls have declared themselves Gasfield Free**

On behalf of residents of The Channon, Terania and Tuntable Creek, I write to inform you that these communities have declared themselves Gasfield Free. We ask that you revoke all Petroleum Exploration and Production licenses for unconventional gas mining in the Northern Rivers, including the catchments of our rivers.

Through a thorough, grass-roots process, members of our communities have taken a survey to every household on 20 roads. Residents over the age of 16 years were asked "Do you want to close your roads and lands to Coal Seam Gas?" Of 432 people who responded to the survey, only 2 said 'no'. One person said 'not sure', and a staggering 429 people said YES. This is 99.3%.

**Do you want your roads and lands CSG Free?**  
Survey of The Channon, Terania & Tuntable Falls

TOTAL	YES	NO	NOT SURE
<b>432</b>	<b>429 (99.3%)</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>

The people of this community are united in our rejection of invasive gas mining. We reject the blizzard of paper 'regulation' that your government has recently produced. The outcome of your 'regulation' is that the industry can expand here, and put at risk our communities, farmlands, water, and remnant ecology.

Our region is a food bowl. Tourism is our biggest industry. Our high biodiversity must be protected. We do not want our land devalued, our pastures and waterways polluted.

Mining industry research shows that within 15 years, 50% of wells are leaking. When this occurs, gas can migrate into sweetwater aquifers. Yet these wells must **never** leak...EVER. The older they get, the greater the leakage risk. There are innumerable problems with unconventional gas mining, not the least being disposal of vast amounts of salty, contaminated wastewater. But your government appears to be uninterested in how Metgasco failed to adequately manage wastewater management to date. For this, you have rewarded them with a production license.

We are ordinary people. With 99.3% of us wanting to be CSG Free, we come from every political affiliation. Rural booth results from the recent Lismore poll show that our grass-roots community surveys are good measures of community opinion.

We resent the fact that your government describes ordinary people opposed to this industry as 'extremists'. The word 'extremist' would be better applied to those who vigorously promote an industry that carries so many risks.



We have erected signs on our roads that declare them **Gasfield Free – Protected by Community**.

We have presented Declarations for each of our 20 Gasfield Free roads to the Mayor of Lismore City Council, Jenny Dowell. We invite you to watch this moving ceremony in our short YouTube ***The People vs CSG: the Birth of CSG Free Communities***. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3Bvx-0DyNsw&feature=plcp>

We ask you to annul all Petroleum Exploration and Production licenses for unconventional gas mining in the Northern Rivers, including the catchments of our rivers. We are absolutely committed to achieving this outcome. Our social movement is only just beginning.

Yours sincerely,

Annie Kia

Annie Kia  
on behalf of the people of The Channon, Terania and Tuntable Creek