

COAL SEAM GAS SCIENCE FORUM

PUBLIC WORKSHOPS AND FORUM

TUESDAY 25TH MARCH 2014

NSW PARLIAMENT HOUSE
MACQUARIE ST, SYDNEY

Discussion regarding the science of coal seam gas extraction, risk management and a review of the regulatory process in NSW.

TUESDAY 25TH MARCH 2014

2PM – 5:30PM: WORKSHOPS

NSW PARLIAMENT HOUSE – MACQUARIE ROOM

2.00: Registration and introductions

2.30: Welcome and opening remarks from Hugh Price - Chairman, CSG Science Forum Steering Committee

2.40: Workshop 1: *The hydrogeological science of CSG - what is it really telling us?*

- Potential risk of CSG to the quality and quantity of groundwater aquifers.
- The impact of CSG water extraction on normal groundwater system function.
- Up-to-date experience from scientists and case studies.

Chaired by Dr John Williams, Adjunct Professor in Agriculture and Natural Resource Management at Charles Sturt University, Former Commissioner of the NSW Natural Resources Commission

Panellists:

Andrea Broughton, Principal, Hydrogeologist, **Groundwater Solutions International**

Dr Gavin Mudd, Senior Lecturer, Environmental Engineering, **Monash University**

Dr Phillip Pells, Principal, Geotechnical and Groundwater Engineer, **Pells Consulting**

Peter Serov, Director, Groundwater Ecologist, **Stygoecologia**

3.55: Afternoon tea break

4.10: Workshop 2: *The adequacy of the laws, regulations and recommended improvements*

- Strengths and weaknesses of the current regulatory regime for CSG.
- The rights and obligations of farmers and other landholders.
- Evaluating 'make-good' provisions for CSG impacts to land and water.

Chaired by Peter Martin, Southern Highlands Landholder

Panellists:

Ian Coleman SC, Adjunct Professor School of Law **University of Western Sydney**

Marylou Potts, Director Principal, Solicitor, **Marylou Potts Pty Ltd**

Simone Marsh, Environment Manager, Queensland at **Hatch Associates**

5.30: Break for speakers and members of the public

6:30PM – 8:30PM: PUBLIC FORUM AND PANEL DISCUSSION

NSW PARLIAMENT HOUSE – THEATRETTE

6.30: Welcome & opening remarks from the Chair, Warwick Giblin- Managing Director, OzEnvironmental Pty Ltd. Founding President Environment Institute Aust & NZ (NSW) and Fellow of the Institute.

6.40: via Video Link: **Dr Tony Ingraffea**, Dwight C. Baum Professorship in Engineering, **Cornell University**

6.50: Panel Discussion: The Science and Risks of CSG exploration and production

- Review of what constitutes proper scientific assessment and knowledge of CSG impacts.
- Safeguarding the quality and quantity of groundwater and surface water systems.
- Identifying recommendations for more robust, transparent and accountable policy on coal seam gas.
- Exploring the adequacy of existing coal seam gas policies, such as aquifer interference, strategic land use, and 'make good' provisions.

Members of the audience will be given the opportunity to ask questions.

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8.30: Conclusion
