



**Stop CSG Illawarra**  
Phone: 02 8003 3170  
[www.stop-csg-illawarra.org](http://www.stop-csg-illawarra.org)  
email: [supporters@stop-csg-illawarra.org](mailto:supporters@stop-csg-illawarra.org)

Hello,

You've probably heard about the campaign to stop coal seam gas in the Illawarra. Since March 2011 it's grown to be one of the biggest community movements the area has ever seen; and there's good reason for that. The evidence mounts daily that CSG mining brings with it substantial risks (*please* - see over for some reasons why so many in the community are alarmed).

### **Introducing the *Stop CSG Business Supporter's program***

Concerned local businesses have asked what they can do to help, so we're launching a 'Business Supporters' program and we're inviting you to take part.

**We're not asking for any money. We're not asking for much at all beyond your visible support.** And in return, you should find you'll be generating some **considerable support of your own.**

### **What you get**

- You'll get a listing on our website 'Supporters' page as a proud supporter of the campaign, with a link to your own website or Facebook page, or Google map and contact details if you don't have a site. The page will act as a business directory with visitors encourages to **"Support the businesses that support your campaign"**. As an aside - our site is ranked highly in Google, and a link to your site may increase your weighting.
- You'll be individually featured and linked in our next email newsletter (with over 2,700 confirmed valid recipients to date and **more added every week**). The people receiving it are overwhelmingly local, passionate individuals who care about the area they live in deeply. In addition, every single email newsletter will carry the encouragement to **"Support the businesses that support your campaign"** with a link to the supporters page and your listing.

### **What you need to do to qualify as a 'Stop CSG Supporter'...**

- Display a small (22.5cmx8.5cm) window sticker at the entrance to your business. They look like this >>
- Display a leaflet holder somewhere reasonably accessible (counter preferred, but we understand that isn't always possible), and let us know when the last one has been taken (email/call) so we can get some more to you.



... and that's it. ***Optionally***, for extra love from the community you might like to also consider:

- Having our petition available to sign
  - Having a donation tin on display (we will supply)
  - Selling bumper stickers for \$1
  - Selling signs for \$5
- (we trust you to keep the \$ in an envelope till you've got a bit and then let us know to pick it up. Or you can transfer to our bank account electronically if you like)

And, while we're not asking for money, any financial support is greatly appreciated of course. If you are able to make a donation you'll find bank details on our website. 😊

## OK. Sign me up!

**Please let us know as soon as possible** if you would like to become a 'Stop CSG Supporter' and we'll drop off your sticker and leaflet holder. Please let us also know if, optionally, you would be prepared to have a petition available, a donation tin on display or sell stickers or signs and we'll get those to you.

**We'd also like to hear from you if you're not interested** and why (really we would) – so please get in touch.

You can email [supporters@stop-csg-illawarra.org](mailto:supporters@stop-csg-illawarra.org) or leave a message on **02 8003 3170**. Be sure to leave your name, business name, address, contact and web details. Thanks!

*The team at Stop CSG Illawarra.*

### CSG risks

There is growing evidence that coal seam gas mining poses substantial risks. Stop CSG Illawarra formed to express **community concern** about these risks, including:

- Threats to water systems and supplies – The areas to be exploited form part of Sydney's most reliable drinking water catchments.
- Leaking methane – In an area regularly ravaged by intense bushfires.
- Health impacts – Already appearing in Queensland where CSG mining is established.
- A large above-ground footprint – Many hundreds of hectares of virgin bush and swampland to be cleared.
- Related seismic activity – Check out the landslip at Wombarra.
- Insufficient research and community engagement in CSG determinations – Who asked you if you wanted this to happen?

We risk so much. Not just in terms of the well documented and increasingly evidenced threats to our own drinking water, health and environment, but in other knock-on effects that have barely begun to be explored.

### But what about the jobs?

This is obviously an important community issue in the Illawarra and the CSG mining industry claim that we can't afford to say no because of the jobs created.

However, there is no reason to believe that the experience locally will be any different than elsewhere in the country – with a large proportion of any jobs going to experienced workers from elsewhere (Fly In Fly Out). APEX Energy, the company holding the leases for our area has publically stated there will be a total of just six construction jobs and six longer-term jobs created with their project of sixteen exploration wells – does this sound like a good deal to you?

Now weigh this against the position of our beautiful area as a centre for NSW tourism and the economic benefits this brings - in particular to local small business. If we allow the development of a gas field to go ahead (with the planned 150-200 production wells for the Northern Illawarra escarpment alone) we are putting that benefit and associated employment in serious jeopardy.

**Please visit [www.stop-csg-illawarra.org](http://www.stop-csg-illawarra.org) where you will find a wealth of well-researched information on these risks and more in much more detail.**