



**Stop CSG Illawarra**  
PO Box 5022, Wollongong NSW 2520  
Phone: Jess Moore 0416 232 349  
[www.stop-csg-illawarra.org](http://www.stop-csg-illawarra.org)  
[info@stop-csg-illawarra.org](mailto:info@stop-csg-illawarra.org)

Media Release: 2<sup>nd</sup> November, 2012

## Mining the Truth

On November 4 Stop CSG Illawarra will host a public forum featuring The Australia Institute's Mark Ogge. Ogge will talk about what CSG development will mean for jobs and the economy, based on the key findings of a recent report by The Australia Institute: **Mining the Truth**. The research systematically unpicks many myths about the size, significance and economic benefits of the mining industry, and explains the impacts of the boom on other sectors of the Australian economy.

### Stop CSG Illawarra spokesperson Jess Moore stated:

"The government and industry say we must have CSG for the economy - despite the risks - so it is important that we understand this claim and the reality.

"While the industry tells us CSG will be good for jobs, the 16 wells proposed in and around the drinking water catchment are projected to create only 6 ongoing jobs.

"Meanwhile these wells pose risks to the community broadly, particularly drinking water supplies, and industry growth will negatively impact big employers in the Illawarra."

### Guest speaker Mark Ogge explained:

"The coal seam gas industry is struggling to gain a foothold in the Illawarra region, but it is part of a massive expansion across the east coast of Australia. It is a major driver of the skills shortages and increase in the Australian dollar that are causing job losses in the manufacturing, tourism, education and agricultural industries.

"Mining is a small employer in the Illawarra region, but it's having a big impact on job losses, particularly in manufacturing.

"Mining as a whole provides less than three percent of jobs in the Illawarra region. Manufacturing, despite the recent job losses, still provides over ten percent of the region's employment.

"Manufacturing workers in the Illawarra, particularly in the steel industry are on the front line of the "crowding out" impact of the mining boom."

### Public Forum: Mining the Truth

Sunday November 4, 11am

Thirroul Community Centre, 352/358 Lawrence Hargrave Drive, Thirroul

**Media enquiries: Mark Ogge 0421 272 884 and Jess Moore 0416 232 349**