



Stop CSG Illawarra
PO Box 5022, Wollongong NSW 2520
Phone: Jess Moore 0416 232 349
www.stop-csg-illawarra.org
info@stop-csg-illawarra.org

Media Release: 15th March, 2012

Government fails people of NSW

This morning a motion was put to the NSW Upper House – to place a moratorium on all coal seam gas (CSG) projects in the state, other than the Camden production field. It was lost 16-19, with the Coalition, Shooters and Fishers and Christian Democrats against; and Labor and The Greens in favour. [1]

This afternoon the petition initiated by Stop CSG Illawarra – signed by over 20,000 NSW residents – was debated on the floor of the Lower House. It called on the Government to put in place an immediate moratorium on all CSG projects; a royal commission into the full impacts of CSG; and an immediate ban on fracking. Gareth Ward and Lee Evans spoke against, and Ryan Park and John Robertson spoke in favour. [2]

Stop CSG Illawarra spokesperson Jess Moore stated: “In both Houses Coalition members showed absolute contempt for the people of NSW.

“The Coalition called a moratorium irresponsible, saying that the Government must wait for more facts.

“But it is completely irresponsible to develop an industry before getting the facts.

“Gareth Ward spoke against the petition – defending Coalition plans as adequate.

“Lee Evans spoke against the petition, then admitted to signing it. But he can’t have it both ways.

“He either stands with his community, and the 74% of people in NSW who support the call for a moratorium, or he tows the Coalition line and acts on behalf of the CSG industry.

“The debate was an insult to the 20,000 plus petitioners who called on the Government to act.

“CSG poses enormous risks to water, food, communities and the environment. And the Government is not stopping it.

“Actions speak louder than words. The Liberals opposed the petition. The Coalition voted down a moratorium. Barry O’Farrell did not even show up.

“CSG wells are being drilled in our drinking water catchment and the Government is not stopping it.”

Media enquiries: Jess Moore 0416 232 349 or Chris Williams 0425 329 963

[1] http://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/Prod/parlment/hanstrans.nsf/V3ByKey/LC20120315?open&refNavID=HA6_1

[2] <http://stop-csg-illawarra.org/2012/stop-csg-petition-debated/>