



PO Box 5022, Wollongong NSW 2520
Phone: Jess Moore 0416 232 349; or
Chris Williams 0425 329 963
www.stop-csg-illawarra.org
info@stop-csg-illawarra.org

Media Release: 29th May, 2011

3000 people form human sign to Stop CSG

3000 people turned out to Austinmer beach this morning to form a human sign saying 'Stop Coal Seam Gas!' Three helicopters, each from a major media outlet, circled above the cheering and waving crowd to film the historic event. There was an incredible diversity of people present reflecting the breadth of community concern about CSG.

Stop CSG Illawarra spokesperson Jess Moore said: "The Government forgot to ask this community what we think of coal seam gas. Today we told them in no uncertain terms.

"We are concerned because CSG mining always involves contaminated water. The extraction of gas draws water out of the coal seam that is highly saline and can contain toxic and radioactive compounds, and heavy metals.

"It is a fire hazard, as wells, processing plants and pipelines leak.

"CSG mining risks a range of health impacts such as heart, lung, kidney and neurological problems and cancer.

"It is particularly outrageous that most of the local approvals are in our drinking water catchment. Penalties of up to \$11,000 apply for even walking in the catchment, yet the government approved CSG mining there!

"This community is standing together to ensure safe drinking water and food, the environment and our health.

"And we will not stop until we win. We have to. There's too much at stake."

Stop CSG Illawarra is campaigning locally for: a Royal Commission into all impacts of CSG mining; a moratorium on CSG mining until the outcome of the Royal Commission; and a ban on fracking.

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