

Response ID ANON-XVYX-N2DT-Q

Submitted to **Independent review of the 'water trigger' legislation**

Submitted on **2016-01-26 21:31:07**

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No, I would like to continue to complete the questionnaire

TOR 1: Examine the appropriateness of the regulation including whether it is necessary and well targeted

3 Is there a significant likelihood of a substantial negative environmental impact from coal seam gas and large coal mining development on water resources in the absence of the water trigger legislation?

Yes

Please tell us why:

Water is precious resource. Any activity that could possibly breach the integrity of aquifers should be a matter for serious concern and investigation both coal mining and unconventional gas mining fall into this category

4 Is the scope and focus of the legislation appropriate to the problem being addressed?

Uncertain

Please tell us why:

What is written may appear to address concerns adequately. More often than not legislation related to coal and CSG is honoured more in the breach than in enforcement

5 Are there significant gaps in the scope or intent of the legislation?

Uncertain

Please tell us why:

As above there are too many opportunities to "misinterpret" the intent and thus breach "inadvertently."

6 Please upload additional information relating to TOR 1 if you wish

File upload:

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TOR 2: Effectiveness of the regulation in protecting water resources from the impacts of coal seam gas and large coal mining projects, including the role and scope of work given to the IESC

7 In your opinion has the water trigger legislation been effective in protecting water resources potentially and actually affected by relevant developments?

No

Please tell us why::

We have seen CSG (AGL) dumping contaminated water in areas such as Broke. We have seen significant water outflows (Camden) and a general lack of care from Companies accompanied by lack of enforcement by DoPE

8 Please upload additional information relating to TOR 2 if you wish

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TOR 3: Identify any opportunities to improve the effectiveness of the regulation

9 Are there gaps in the scope of the legislation that reduce its effectiveness in protecting water resource from relevant developments?

Uncertain

Please tell us why:

As before unscrupulous Companies and will always seek to override or "misinterpret" legislation.

10 Are there opportunities to improve the clarity of the legislation? This could include responses concerning the definitions of actions which are covered by the legislation, and whether the approval conditions on those developments provide benefit in protecting water resources.

Uncertain

Please tell us what type/s of opportunities may improve the clarity of the legislation:

11 Are there improvements that could be made to the way in which advice is sought by the Australian Government from the Independent Expert Scientific Committee on Coal Seam Gas and Large Coal Mining Development (IESC) that could increase the efficiency of processes required as part of the water trigger?

Yes

Please tell us why:

The Chief Scientist has expressed concerns about the uncertainties attendant on these industries. Government continues to allow projects to go forward based on Corporate promises based on Corporate need rather than scientific rigour.

12 Were stakeholders appropriately involved in the implementation of the water trigger legislation?

No

Please tell us why:

Stakeholders "meetings" by DoPE and government are box-ticking not a genuine effort to listen to justifiable concerns

13 Please upload additional information relating to TOR 3 here if you wish

File upload:

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TOR 4: Examine the efficiency of the regulation in protecting water resources from the impacts of coal seam gas and large coal mining projects

14 Have there been additional administrative compliance and delay costs arising from the water trigger that have affected business, community organisations and individuals?

Uncertain

Please tell us why:

15 Has the water trigger been beneficial in providing environmental outcomes, community confidence in the regulatory system of applying science to decision-making and management of environmental risk?

No

Please tell us why:

We have a salinity control mechanism that proposes mining should be able to release larger amounts of water during high rainfall. With more water comes more saline and more heavy metal contaminants which may be dilute in the original effluent but stay in soil forever once the diluent has evaporated.

16 Has the water trigger delivered an overall benefit when regulatory costs are compared to the environmental and other benefits?

Uncertain

Tell us why:

Any regulatory costs are wasted when enforcement is often not actioned

17 Have there been additional administrative and other costs to governments arising from the implementation of the water trigger?

Uncertain

Tell us why:

Upload file:

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TOR 5: Identify any opportunities to reduce or simplify the regulation whilst maintaining its effectiveness

18 Are there any opportunities to reduce or simplify the regulation whilst maintaining its effectiveness?

Yes

Please tell us more:

Rigorous INDEPENDENT scientific of each and every project.. EIS prepared by the proponent are self-serving lies!

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TOR 6: Identify any recommended appropriate future review points of the regulation

19 Are there particular points in time, outside the statutory schedule for the review of the EPBC Act (reviewed every 10 years from commencement) that should be considered as review points for the water trigger?

Uncertain

Please tell us why:

Personal information

20 What is your name?

First name:

Judith Leslie

Last name:

Leslie

21 I wish to make this submission anonymously

Not Answered

22 Contact details

Email address:

[REDACTED]

Mailing address:

[REDACTED]

Postcode:

[REDACTED]

23 What is your organisation (if applicable)?

Organisation:

24 What has been your involvement with the Water Trigger legislation?

I am a landowner potentially affected by coal seam gas/large coal exploration or extraction., I am a resident of a community where coal seam gas/large coal projects are imminent or current.

Please describe:

25 How did you hear about the water trigger review?

Community organisation or peak body

If other, how?:

26 Rate the following sources of information regarding the water trigger review.

rank - Department of the Environment website:

Neutral

rank - Issues Paper:

Neutral

27 Which of the following sources of information do you find useful for information on coal seam gas and coal mining?

Rate sources of information - Media:

Neutral

Rate sources of information - Government:

Neutral

Rate sources of information - Scientific and research bodies such as CSIRO and universities:

Useful

Rate sources of information - Information from community groups and peak bodies (eg websites, newsletters):

Useful

Rate sources of information - Informal sources such as word of mouth:

Neutral