

Response ID ANON-XVYX-N2DP-K

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

Submitted on **2016-01-29 12:35:46**

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2 Would you like to submit your uploaded file now or continue to the questionnaire?

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:

There is an absolute 100% likelihood that coal seam gas and large coal mining development will destroy water resources at every level.

All mines leak due to insufficient safety measures and willful discharge of vast quantities of pollutants into the groundwater and surface water.

Effective water trigger legislation should stop coal seam gas and coal mining operations.

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

No

Please tell us why:

The scope of the already existing destruction, e.g., Chinchilla, Condamine River and all CSG works in Queensland where farmers' bore water disappears or is so badly polluted it is dangerous to life of humans, stock, indeed, all life (Endless examples from US and other countries of damage as well.), indicate that legislation is ineffective.

The potential devastation should mining continue in the Great Artesian Basin, the Galilee Basin, the Liverpool Plains is vandalism at the highest level.

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

Yes

Please tell us why:

The legislation must express in the clearest terms the absolute necessity of preserving water. This means ensuring the structural integrity of the groundwater basins. This requires that business, mining, agriculture, urban water supply, all demands on water resources, also build-in water preservation and purification at the highest scientific level, with up to date knowledge of water systems.

Importance of wetlands for water purification and slowing water flows on the surface.

Importance of deep geological basins for water filtration and purification for total hydrological system function.

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

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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::

See previous answer. List of ecological disasters is long -- as long as the list of mining companies that get away with leaving -- selling to a less cashed up cowboy

operator -- going bankrupt -- shifting profits any number of 'legal' ways -- in many way leaving terrible pollution in land and water.

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?

Yes

Please tell us why:

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.

Yes

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:

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

No

Please tell us why:

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?

Yes

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?

Uncertain

Please tell us why:

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

Uncertain

Tell us why:

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

Uncertain

Tell us why:

One can only assume that there are costs. Also that an effective program will have costs.

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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?

Uncertain

Please tell us more:

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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:

Reesa

Last name:

Ryan

21 I wish to make this submission anonymously

Not Answered

22 Contact details

Email address:

[REDACTED]

Mailing address:

Postcode:

[REDACTED]

23 What is your organisation (if applicable)?

Organisation:

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

Other (please describe)

Please describe:

I rent in the city and am directly affected.

25 How did you hear about the water trigger review?

Other (please describe)

If other, how?:

www

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:

Useful

Rate sources of information - Government:

Useful

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:

Useful