

## **News from Blockage at Doubtful Creek from Sledge 19-2-13**

People are still needed for earth defence.

A substantial police escort came with a convoy of Metgasco trucks led by Stuart George passed our group of protestors Tuesday. A tanker (water?) a flatbed semi carrying bags of cement or bentonite and a Wireline seismic testing truck came in. This may indicate that Metgasco is nearly finished at DC and will be going elsewhere soon. Every time the gas miners want to come in or out they need a police escort: surely not a viable business model! The more delays they face the less chance they will want to come back to the Northern Rivers. Please come if the risk of flooding doesn't impact your home: We need more people to hold the frackers at bay.

Rain was a nuisance today and some effort was required to put the camp in order. More will be needed Wednesday when extra people will be needed for working on the covered area next to the forest entry: we want to extend the roof over the kitchen/lounge and at the same time maintain a vigil at this entry plus Booth's Road and an info stall at Dyraaba.

Get there if you can. Big numbers is good for morale.

Thursday 21-2-13 : There is a big rain event happening along the coast. Less serious near Doubtful Creek: in fact no rain this morning, so you may stay dry by going there!. Metgasco announced this morning they have drilled to the level they needed to reach and will be finishing up by the weekend. It may be difficult to get protestors to the drill site before then, but get there if you can. The core group on site reports good spirits and they have kept a re-fuelling truck out for 3 hours today.

For the future

Sledge

## **First thoughts on the NSW governments tougher restrictions on CSG - 20 Feb 2013**

While all opponents of dangerous and environmentally damaging mining practices welcome stricter regulation by the NSW state government, we will have to pressure them to expand protection to all residents. Yesterday's announcement amounts to an admission that CSG mining has yet to prove that it can be done safely and I doubt that it never will. Surely the precautionary principle should hold for all areas, not only for 2 km around from urban centre, horse studs and wineries. If CSG is dangerous for wine grapes, what about vegetables? If not safe for horses, what about cattle? If the health of citizens in large centres are to be protected, what about the residents of villages and rural dwellings?

The CSG industry is another asbestos disaster looming - only worse, as CSG pollutes our air, land and water.

This announcement seems to be a recognition that the people don't want CSG mining and it may be a cynical attempt to split the opposition for political purposes. We really now need to lobby politicians of ALL persuasions to enforce a ban on all CSG activity until and unless it can be proven safe.

Please do all you can for this issue which unites all people of good will in our desire to secure a safe future for generations to come.

Sustainably,  
Sledge  
NRG President