

LOCK THE TWEED

MEDIA RELEASE 19/10/13

COMMUNITIES REACT TO RESUMED GAS INVASION

News that Santos has moved a CSG drilling rig into the Pilliga forest overnight has galvanised communities in the Northern Rivers.

"We have been expecting this push to start now that the federal election is over" according to Michael McNamara from Lock the Tweed.

"Northern Rivers communities will stand strongly with the communities of North West NSW to oppose Santos' operations in the Pilliga"

"The Pilliga is extremely important to the health of the Great Artesian Basin and the risk to water, land and wildlife from allowing Santos to proceed is something that unites communities across the state"

"Locally, Metgasco has announced plans to return to the Northern Rivers and Dart Energy have announced that they are planning to return through their subsidiary Macquarie Energy now that the transfer of ownership of PEL445 from Arrow Energy is complete"

"Northern Rivers communities remain staunch in their opposition to the development of invasive industrialised gasfields and will stand strongly with communities in the North West of the state as well as defending their local areas"

"Company management, shareholders and investors should take note that, just as communities in the North West of NSW will resist Santos' moves in the Pilliga, Northern Rivers communities will actively resist the invasion by Metgasco and Dart"

"Lock the Tweed will be hosting community meetings over coming weeks throughout the Tweed Valley to inform local communities about recent developments"

"The first of these meetings will be held at Tyalgum at 6pm on Saturday 2 November at the Community Hall. Meetings will also be held at Stokers Siding, Burringbar, Uki and Murwillumbah"

Details of the meetings can be found on the Lock the Tweed website.

"We will be showing the new video from Lock The Gate, "Fractured Country", as well as discussing the community response to the planned return by Metgasco and Dart"

"Right across the Northern Rivers communities have made their opposition clear"

"Whether it was through street marches attracting thousands in Murwillumbah and Lismore or through road surveys in individual communities with response rates averaging over 90% in favour of remaining Gasfield Free or the 87% of Lismore voters who oppose CSG, the community has spoken loud and strong"

"Federal and State politicians need to start listening to their communities rather than industry representatives"

FURTHER INFORMATION

Michael McNamara
Tel: 0418 195 258

List of community meetings:

2 Nov - Tyalgum Community Hall - 6pm
9 Nov - Uki Community Hall - 6pm
16 Nov - Burringbar Sports Club - 6pm
22 Nov - Stokers Siding Hall - 6pm
23 Nov - Murwillumbah - Autumn Club (Tumbulgum Road) - 6pm