



# Northern Rivers Guardians

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**6/5/11**

***Let go and get a life***

Northern Rivers Guardians (NRG) spokesperson Michael McNamara has called on Murwillumbah Business Chamber president Toni Zuschke to let go of the rally and get a life after she was quoted recently trying to link community members who opposed the running of the World Rally Championships in the Tweed Valley to the Nimbin Mardi Grass festival (TDN 5/5/11).

"Ms Zuschke does herself, and the Murwillumbah Business Chamber, no favours by gratuitously insulting the many community members who opposed the rally" Mr McNamara said.

"While Toni yearns wistfully for the smoke and noise of the rally, others in the community have moved on. She would do better to address the serious issues that confront our community now"

"NRG does not participate in Nimbin's Mardi Grass festival. We are working constructively with groups and individuals from right across the community, including the Caldera Environment Centre, the Combined Tweed Rural Industries Association, the NSW Canegrowers Association, the NSW Farmers Association and many other community groups, to combat the real and growing threat to the Tweed Valley from coal seam gas mining" he said.

"Many local government, industry and other organisations, including Tweed, Lismore and Kyogle Councils, Rous Water, Destination Tweed and the NSW Farmers Association have also joined the call for a moratorium on coal seam gas mining."

"Yet Toni seems hung up on the rally"

"This is really sad for the business community of the Tweed"

"Where is the leadership they deserve?"

"I invite Ms Zuschke and the Business Chamber to get behind the broadly based community campaign opposed to coal seam gas mining, commit to participate in the United Community Gathering in Murwillumbah on the 14th of May and publicly state the Chamber's opposition to the imposition of this dangerous technology on the Tweed"

"I would love to walk through the streets of Murwillumbah with Toni expressing our shared concern about the potential destructive impact of coal seam mining" he said.

## ***FURTHER INFORMATION***

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