

CSG support for farmers

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For the third time in a year, the AgForce Projects coal seam gas (CSG) team will return to the Roma region to cater for growing community concern over the rapid development of the industry.

Sessions will be held in Roma on 6 March, Injune on 7 March and Wallumbilla on 8 March.

AgForce Projects CSG officer Joel Rickuss said it is important all landholders in the region have access to independent information about their rights and responsibilities when it comes to the burgeoning industry.

"CSG is a serious issue for landholders in the Surat Basin and we want to make sure they are aware of their rights and understand how to exercise those rights in order to protect their farming enterprise," Mr Rickuss said.

"The sessions provide vital tips for landholders already affected by CSG activity as well as landholders who want to be prepared should a resource company come knocking on the door. We provide important tips on how to negotiate a fair conduct and compensation agreement (CCA) with resource companies, how to monitor on-property impacts and keep quality environmental baseline records.

"We don't want landholders to be caught unprepared so we can help you identify if a company has a tenure over your property and take you through the steps to prepare to negotiate with a resource company."

Local grazier Helen Wilkin attended a session in Roma last May and praised the team for providing independent and practical information about the CSG industry. With one gas drill already on the family's 7280 acre property, Helen said the session provided much-needed information to help them mitigate the risks of CSG activity.

"We now know that we have rights, we understand we need to seek legal advice to find out what our boundaries are, and we know how to seek compensation," Mrs Wilkin said.

Last year AgForce Projects CSG information sessions assisted more than 1300 landholders across Queensland and can provide the same assistance to you.

Dates and times: **Roma** - Tuesday 6 March, 3.30pm-7.30pm, **Injune** - Wednesday 7 March, 3.30pm-7.30pm, **Wallumbilla** - Thursday 8 March, 9am-1pm. AgForce will also present free CSG, carbon and vegetation management workshops in Chinchilla and Condamine on 17 April, and Dalby on 18 April.

To register visit www.agforceprojects.org.au and complete a registration form or call 07 3238 6048. These information sessions are delivered free to all producers with the financial support of the Queensland Government.

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