



AgForce to give best tips for CSG negotiations

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Negotiating with a coal seam gas (CSG) company can be a daunting experience, however landholders in Southern Inland Queensland will soon be offered assistance when a new round of AgForce Projects CSG information sessions returns to the region this month.

After delivering the first round of sessions to more than 1900 landholders across the state, the new sessions have been designed specifically to help landholders prepare property information for use in negotiations and will be held in Injune, Taroom, Wandoan and Miles from 24-27 September.

AgForce Projects CSG project manager Kate Dunn said the sessions would provide practical, hands on tips to landholders on negotiating the best outcome for their property.

"The negotiation stage is crucial to help you get the best outcome for your property," Ms Dunn said.

"But dealing with a CSG company can be very stressful and like most Queenslanders, primary producers don't have extensive legal knowledge or negotiation experience."

"It is clear that a lot of landholders are now reaching the stage where they are being asked to sign agreements with CSG companies so we want to give landholders some tips and tools to help them have the best chance at negotiating a fair CCA."

The sessions will offer detailed negotiation tips, help landholders prepare property information to use when negotiating a CCA and demonstrate the importance of seeking independent legal advice.

"We will give you the information you need to help assess the impacts of CSG activity on your property for use in CCA negotiations," she said.

Ms Dunn said while the sessions were designed for landholders who have previously attended a CSG information session, the sessions would also provide vital information for all landholders concerned about the expansion of the industry.

"This series of information sessions is about arming landholders with the best set of tools going into negotiations. We will help landholders learn how to develop a property plan and map for use in negotiations as well as a checklist to assess CSG impacts," she said.

AgForce's CSG Project was launched in March 2011 in response to demand from landholders for more information about this burgeoning industry.

These information sessions are delivered free to all producers with the financial support of the Queensland Government.

Session times: Injune - Monday 24 September, 4-8pm; Taroom - Wednesday 26 September, 9am-1pm; Wandoan - Thursday 27 September, 9am-1pm; Miles - Thursday 27 September, 4-8pm

To register visit www.agforceprojects.org.au and complete a registration form or call 07 3238 6048.

Photo caption: CSG project manager Kate Dunn (pictured on right with Jo Whip, Morven) will show landholders how to prepare property information, including digital maps, to get the best outcome from negotiations with resource companies.

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