



Mapping helps landholders mitigate CSG risks

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Landholders preparing to negotiate with a CSG company are benefiting from a new series of AgForce Projects workshops which combine CSG negotiation information with a property computer mapping workshop.

Launched earlier this month in Injune, Roma and Dulacca, the workshops give landholders practical negotiation tips and mapping skills to help assess and minimise the impact of CSG activities on their property.

The next round of workshops in the Surat Basin will be held in Taroom on 30 April, Condamine on 1 May and Dalby on 2 May.

CSG project officer Daniel Phipps said a detailed property plan and map is the best evidence a landholder can have to demonstrate the impact CSG activities may have on their business.

“The legislation stipulates that CSG companies cannot unreasonably interfere with your lawful activity. However, it is up to you to educate them about your property and business operations,” Mr Phipps said.

“You need to collate all of the information about your current and future plans for your business operations into a format that clearly demonstrates to a CSG company the impact their activities will have. A detailed property map and plan is a great way to achieve this.”

Jackson grazier Elwyn Park, Kamilaroi, says having an understanding of the activities a CSG company is undertaking on her property and the power to ensure the impacts are minimised is crucial.

Ms Park attended an AgForce Projects workshop in Dulacca in a bid to find out more about the industry and develop the skills to feel more confident going into negotiations.

“As landholders it is very important that we become educated about this industry and what we need to do before talking to a CSG company in order to create a harmonious, ongoing business relationship,” Ms Park said.

“I have been dealing with a company for some time now and while there have been no major problems it is always difficult when you don’t know what the projected activities are likely to be into the future.

“It is that uncertainty that is the major concern and it also makes it very difficult to plan anything, which has an impact on how you run your property.”

Ms Park said in future she would be using mapping as a way to demonstrate to the CSG company how she runs her business, to ensure their activities don’t impact on her day-to-day property management and planning.

“AgForce Projects has a wealth of information and I now feel more confident going into future negotiations. The negotiation tips were great and the mapping was probably the best tool as it gives us something to bring into negotiations for further support.

Mr Phipps said by exercising their rights, doing the proper preparation and getting professional legal advice, landholders like Ms Park can help minimise the impact of CSG activities on their business.

For more information or to register visit www.agforceprojects.org.au or call 3238 6048.

This service is delivered free through funding from the Queensland Government.

Photo caption: AgForce Projects CSG project officer Daniel Phipps will provide landholders with the skills and technology to negotiate the best outcome for their property at upcoming workshops in the Surat basin.

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