



Water experts, government & industry address landholders at CSG field day

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Concerns about the impact of CSG activity on groundwater and ongoing monitoring and industry regulation will be the focus of a special CSG water field day to be held in Roma and Miles next month.

The field days will bring together groundwater experts, government regulators and CSG industry representatives to discuss current and future CSG activity and the predicted impacts on groundwater, while giving landholders the opportunity to raise questions during an open panel discussion with industry representatives and decision makers.

Hosted by AgForce Projects and the GasFields Commission Queensland, the field days will be held in Roma on Wednesday 9 October and Miles on Thursday 10 October.

Dulacca landholder Adele Hughes has welcomed CSG water field days being delivered in her region.

Mrs Hughes said the top-class line up of speakers would help to answer her questions on the impact to the Great Artesian Basin from CSG development.

“We have two bores on our properties and are concerned about how they might be affected by CSG drilling and water removal,” Mrs Hughes said.

“Life on the land is totally governed by water and its supply.”

Mrs Hughes said it was important landholders attended field days on the CSG industry in order to gather information and speak with regulators and decision makers governing the industry. She said the more information she could gain about the industry, its development and drilling plans, the better able she would be to move forward with business decisions for her pastoral enterprise.

AgForce Projects Manager, Sue Dillon, says the field days have been designed to provide landholders with the opportunity to hear first-hand about the latest research specific to the Surat Basin and the potential for impacts as a result of CSG activity and interaction between aquifers.

“Protecting groundwater resources and having access to good quality groundwater into the future is a very real issue for Queensland's landholders and local communities,” Ms Dillon said.

“That is why it is so important that landholders have access to key industry representatives, regulators and decision makers and the opportunity to raise any concerns about water issues, policy and regulation.

“We are bringing these stakeholders together to explain their plans to landholders, so that everyone has an understanding of the full story of what we know now in relation to water. We hope this field day will help shed some light on the expected impacts, on-ground regulation, compliance and enforcement provisions, and create a more transparent dialogue between landholders, government and CSG companies.”

Key speakers and panelists include Randall Cox from the Office of Groundwater Impact Assessment; Josh Lean from Environment and Heritage Protection and Steve Ward, Acting General Manager, CSG Compliance Unit. Representatives from Origin, Santos and QGC will also provide updates on their regional activities and water management plans.

The field days will run from 8.30am to 2pm. Cost is free but registrations are essential for catering purposes. To register for this field day visit www.agforceprojects.org.au or call (07) 3238 6048.

These workshops are delivered by AgForce Projects' CSG team with the support of the Queensland Government, the GasFields Commission Queensland and Australian Petroleum Production and Exploration Association.

Media contact: Madeline Cooper, AgForce Projects 0488 002 091