

# AgForce Projects

# CSG NEWSLETTER



[Edition 18, March 2016]

WELCOME to the March edition of the AgForce Projects CSG newsletter and the first edition of 2016.

In this newsletter we provide our regular update on CSG company activity across the Surat, Bowen and Galilee Basins, new mining approvals, government updates, information on the 2016 UWIR report and what is happening with Queensland Globe.

The team have workshops currently planned across South East Queensland so stay up to date with our next locations by visiting [www.agforceprojects.org.au/csg](http://www.agforceprojects.org.au/csg).

If you would like the team to visit a town near you submit your expression of interest [here](#).

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## GasFields Commission Review Announced

The Queensland Government has announced a review into the GasFields Commission. The review findings and recommendations will be provided to the Minister for State Development and be used to determine whether the current model works effectively or needs changing to manage disputes between resource companies and landholders, or if an alternative model, such as an independent Resources Ombudsman, is appropriate.

Public submissions will remain open until 22 April 2016. Submissions can be made [here](#). AgForce Projects encourage landholders to participate in this review through the online survey or alternatively providing feedback via AgForce Projects at [csg@agforceprojects.org.au](mailto:csg@agforceprojects.org.au).



## New bill restores community objection rights

The Queensland Government announced in February that it had restored objection rights for community members. The objection rights were restored through the Mineral and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2016.

The Bill allows for:

- a protection zone of a minimum 50 metres around principal stockyards, bores and artesian wells, dams and artificial water storages connected to a water supply.
- mine proponents to again have to place public notices in newspapers about proposed mining projects
- any landholder to be able to lodge an objection, for example, a landholder downstream from a proposed mine on a river

Dr Lynham said the Queensland Land Court would also have the power to strike out any objections that are frivolous or vexatious, an abuse of the court's process or outside the court's jurisdiction.

Landholders are encouraged to contact the AgForce Projects team with any questions regarding these changes as well as any support needs when dealing with resource companies. The introduction of restricted lands will mean that companies are required to gain landholder consent for any activities within the prescribed distances of restricted areas and the Projects team can help you to understand this process.

For full statement click [here](#).

For more information, or to register for one of our events call 3238 6048 or visit [www.agforceprojects.org.au](http://www.agforceprojects.org.au).

## Company update

The information below provides a brief overview of the key activities and projects currently being undertaken by resource companies in Queensland. If you have any concerns or need further details please contact the CSG Project Team on (07) 3238 6048 or [email](#).

### Carmichael Mine Project Update

#### Land Court rules in favour of Adani

The Queensland Land Court ruled in favour of the state approving Adani's Carmichael mine project in December 2015.

While the Land Court rejected the bid to stop Adani's proposed Carmichael coal mine from going ahead, it made a list of environmental recommendations.

The project is now subject to the conditions set by the Land Court, together with the 59 conditions set down under federal environmental law. The environmental conditions include:

- Water bodies should be monitored over at least a six hour period
- Detailed botanical assessment should focus on all black-throated finch locations
- More effort should be placed into actively locating black-throated finches and collecting information on their movements
- Recordings should be used when black-throated finches are encountered to better identify birds in the area
- Specific surveys be carried out to identify breeding areas
- Experienced ecologists with sound understanding of the black-throated finches be involved in the surveys

The Environmental Defenders Office (EDO), who brought the action on behalf of Friends of the Earth front organisation, Coast and Country, has not ruled out appealing the court's decision to the Supreme Court.

Adani has already faced two federal appeals and a string of cases against the Abbot Point expansion. The Carmichael coal mine is facing another legal challenge in the Federal Court by the Australian Conservation Foundation.

Read ABC story [here](#) - or the Land Court's decision [here](#).

#### Carmichael Environmental Authority Approved

The Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (EHP) issued a final environmental authority (EA) for Adani's Carmichael Mine project in February this year, with approximately 140 conditions.

EHP said in a statement the EA included nine conditions relating to the black throated finch as required by the Land Court.

Although the EA has been approved, Adani still requires a mining lease from the Queensland Government.

The proponent Adani announced in March that it had reached agreements with all landholders involved. The government can now consider Adani's mining lease application and Adani will also need to finalise approvals for the rail in-loading facilities, onshore stockpile yards and offshore wharves.

AgForce Projects will keep you informed of further developments. Read EHP's short statement [here](#) - or read Minister Lynham's statement [here](#).

### AGL exits gas exploration and production

AGL Energy Limited (AGL) announced in February that exploration and production of natural gas assets will no longer be a core business for the company.

AGL said this was "due to the volatility of commodity prices and long development lead times". The company also stated there would be no change to its commercial or retail gas activities.

According to AGL, major drivers in this decision have been the fall in global oil prices with consequent effect on long-term Queensland gas prices and Waukivory Pilot well data indicating lower than expected production volumes for the Gloucester Gas Project.

AGL plans to sell its Queensland natural gas assets at Moranbah, Silver Springs and Spring Gully, apart from gas storage and related plant at Silver Springs.

In New South Wales, AGL will not proceed with the Gloucester Gas Project and will cease production at the Camden Gas Project in South West Sydney in 2023, twelve years earlier than previously proposed.

For more about AGL's announcement click [here](#).



*Company update continued...***First cargo leaves APLNG's Curtis Island plant**

Australian Pacific LNG (APLNG) has commenced operations with its first LNG cargo departing from its LNG facility on Curtis Island, new Gladstone in the Australian state of Queensland.

The LNG vessel Methane Spirit departed the facility on 9 January and marked the end of over four years of planning and construction.

APLNG expects to reach full production from two LNG trains on Curtis Island by the end of 2016.

Origin owns a 37.5% stake in APLNG and is responsible for the upstream sourcing of the coal seam gas (CSG) that feeds the plant, as well as the main gas transmission pipeline.

At full capacity, APLNG's two train LNG production facility will supply nine million tpa of LNG to export markets.

The shipment of the first cargo from APLNG is also a significant moment for Bechtel, the contractor responsible for all three LNG plants on Curtis Island.

In November, Bechtel handed over operational control of the Queensland Curtis LNG plant to QGC, while in October the Santos GLNG project produced its first cargo.

With all three LNG producers fully operational, it was estimated they could produce 25 million tonnes a year of LNG for export.

Origin also announced that as at 31 December 2015, through their APLNG Project, that 1,272 development wells had been drilled and 1,090 wells commissioned. To meet export demand Origin plan to drill and operate wells across their tenures in the Surat Basin and AgForce encourage any landholders approached to negotiate a Conduct and Compensation Agreement (CCA) to contact AgForce Projects for free information and assistance to gain a detailed understanding of the land access process, tips to develop a successful agreement and any support landholders may need.

For more information click [here](#).

**GLNG signs gas purchase agreement with AGL**

Santos announced in December last year that the GLNG project participants have executed an agreement with AGL Energy Limited (AGL) for the purchase of gas for supply to the GLNG project.

The gas will be delivered at Wallumbilla over a period of 11 years commencing in January 2017, with pricing based on an oil-linked formula. The gas will be sourced from coal seam gas fields in Queensland.

Vice President Downstream GLNG Rod Duke said since their first LNG cargo in October, ramp-up of LNG train one has progressed well with the train having already produced well above capacity.

Commissioning work on GLNG's second LNG train has commenced and GLNG are on track for first LNG from train two in the second quarter of 2016.

Read more about the GLNG announcement [here](#).

**Arrow update: Seismic surveys and bore baseline assessments**

Arrow Energy [undertook seismic surveys](#) during February and March in the Cecil Plains region. Seismic surveys are used to gather detailed images of the rock formations below the earth's surface.

Seismic surveys:

- gather information on coal depth and any physical features that may have altered coal seam depths and physical structure in the area
- assist in developing a regional and local geological computer model
- assist in defining viable reserves and coal seam boundaries for further exploration

If a landholder is approached by a resource company to conduct seismic surveys the company will either need to provide written notification of their intention to carry out preliminary activities, requiring an entry notice or if the activities are classified as advanced activities the company are required to develop and sign a conduct and compensation agreement (CCA) with the landholder.

For both preliminary and advanced activities landholders should get their company representative to explain the activities they are seeking to undertake including; how long activities will take, where on their property, how many vehicles and equipment are expected and address strategies covering weed, dust and any farming disruption as well as any other concern the landholder has.

Landholders negotiating a CCA are entitled to get their necessary and reasonable legal, valuation and accounting advice costs reimbursed by the resource company. Landholders should be aware that for preliminary activities there is no requirement for the company to cover these costs.

Arrow is currently contacting landholders with registered water bores in Dalby to undertake baseline assessments of their bores. Baseline assessments include collecting details about the bore's construction, pumping infrastructure, water level and groundwater quality. Landholders must be located in Dalby on Arrow tenure. If you would like to know more about the program, click [here](#).

Any landholders involved in either process can contact the CSG Project team for free information and support.

For updates on Arrow's projects click [here](#).



*Company update continued...***Moreton Resources: Update**

Shadow Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries and the Member for Nanango Deb Frecklington spoke at the Kingaroy Concerned Citizens Forum on Tuesday 9 February to discuss Moreton Resources.

The 900 strong crowd were meeting because they did not agree Moreton Resources should be granted permission to build a coal mine so close to Kingaroy.

Moreton Resources has a proposal to start developing a coal mine next year, five kilometres from Kingaroy. Moreton is planning to replace the current Meandu mine and supply coal to the Tarong Power Station.

The Shadow Minister said she would take the results of the forum to the Minister for Mines and the Shadow Minister so they can understand how the Kingaroy community feels about the possibility of a coal mine on their doorstep. [Moreton Resources announced](#) in March it will move forward with the approval process for its proposed Kingaroy coal mine.

**Cockatoo Coal Mine for sale**

Cockatoo Coal's Baralaba coal mine in central Queensland is now for sale, just months after the company went into voluntary administration.

The sale also comes shortly after objections to its expansion were dismissed by the Queensland Land Court.

The company's administrators, PPB Advisory, said they were looking at selling "all or any of the company's assets", including the Baralaba mine which is located in the Bowen Basin, 150km west of Rockhampton.

At the end of 2015 the Land Court recommended the approval of an expansion of the mine and the current plan is for the mine's expansion to continue.

Cockatoo Coal's expansion project would increase annual production at the Baralaba Coal Mine from 1 million tonnes to 3.5 million tonnes by 2017.

To read more on ABC's in depth story on Cockatoo Coal click [here](#).

**Anglo American to exit Australia**

Mining company Anglo American has announced it will sell off metallurgical coal mines in Queensland, including three in the Moranbah area. The company released details on Tuesday 16 February, saying the Moranbah North and Grosvenor Mines were up for sale, along with its Moranbah South development project.

Another two mines near Middlemount in central Queensland – Grasree and Capcoal – also appear to be set for an eventual sale, with the company saying they would "be managed to further improve performance, and we will consider options for exit at the appropriate time".

Anglo American announced plans in December for a global restructure in a bid to curtail its debt. Anglo American coal chief executive officer Seamus French released a statement saying the three Moranbah assets would be sold as a package.

Metallurgical coal is used to make steel and is not used for generating electricity. Anglo American's New South Wales assets will also be included in the divestment program.

Click [here](#) to read more about Anglo American's [exit](#).

**Linc Energy: Update**

Linc Energy has been committed to stand trial on five charges, alleging it breached Queensland's environmental laws at its Underground Coal Gasification (UCG) site near Chinchilla.

The five charges include causing serious environmental harm for allegedly causing irreversible damage to valuable cropping land. In December 2015 the company submitted its final statement to a committal hearing, claiming "insufficient and unreliable" evidence means the case should not proceed to trial.

UCG is different to CSG in both technical functions and the respective legislative framework. UCG involves converting coal in seams into gas by forcing combustion by pumping air and materials into a coal seam to ignite the seam and generate gas which is then extracted at another point with the resulting gas called Syngas. Whereas CSG involves pumping gas and water out of a coal seam to be separated into two products, water and gas.

For more information on Linc's statement in December 2015 click [here](#), for information on the committal click [here](#).

**Senate Committee into Unconventional Gas Mining**

Senator Glenn Lazarus has chaired the Senate Committee into Unconventional Gas Mining which started in Dalby on Wednesday 17 February 2016.

Senator Lazarus secured the support of the Australian Senate in November 2015 to establish the Inquiry to look into the human, social, environmental and financial impacts of unconventional gas mining across Australia.

The closing date for submissions was 18 March 2016. Read more about Senator Lazarus' statement [here](#) - or more about the Inquiry [here](#).

## Government update

### Federal Government approves EIS for Abbot Point

The Commonwealth Government approved the final environmental impact statement for the Abbot Point Growth Gateway Project in December 2015.

State Development Minister Dr Anthony Lynham said the decision meant that if one or more of the proposed Galilee Basin coal mine projects go ahead, the port could be developed to allow increased exports.

The EIS followed the Palaszczuk Government's move earlier in 2015 to ban sea dumping of capital dredged material.

Dredge spoil is to be placed on land on the site known as T2, adjacent to the existing coal terminal, not on the Caley Valley wetlands or within the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area.

This is the last Commonwealth approval under the Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 for the proposed Carmichael coal mine and rail project in the Galilee Basin.

The Commonwealth Government has now considered the EIS and determined that the project can go ahead in accordance with 29 conditions. These involve management, monitoring, reporting and offsets requirements.

For more information on the Gateway Project click [here](#).

### Government releases action plan on lung disease affecting coal miners

The Palaszczuk Government released a five-point plan to tackle lung disease for the states past and current coal miners in January.

Natural Resources and Mines Minister and Acting Health Minister Dr Anthony Lynham announced measures to help identify and prevent coal miner's pneumoconiosis, a lung disease caused by long-term inhalation of coal dust in underground coal mining operations.

Five cases of coal miner's pneumoconiosis have been confirmed in Queensland.

Dr Lynham outlined action on the five points:

- A review to improve the existing screening system, where coal mine workers have chest X-rays when they start work, at least every five years, and when they retire.
- Taking action on coal mines exceeding regulated limits on dust levels.
- Improving how information is collected and used to ensure cases aren't missed.
- Investigating regulatory changes as part of the mine safety legislation review already underway
- Placing the issue on the agenda for the national council of mining ministers.

For more information on the action plan click [here](#).

### Queensland Treasury estimates job losses across Surat Basin

The Queensland Treasury has forecast a 10,000 job loss in the Surat Basin over the next five years.

The figures have not surprised Western Downs Regional Council Mayor Ray Brown, who said he was well aware of predictions of large job losses in the energy sector.

He said it was less of a bust and more of a return to normal circumstances.

Cr Brown said the council had been working on the expectation there would be a huge shift in the population when the coal seam gas industry transitioned from the construction to the production phase.

Cr Brown said the council had been planning with the full knowledge of the predictions, but there was still growth, albeit at a slower rate.

According to Queensland Government data there are approximately 6000 production CSG wells across the state and with estimates of 18,000-40,000 wells over the lifespan of the industry there is still significant development work ahead of the industry. AgForce is encouraging landholders to remain aware and informed of industry developments by accessing the free information and support provided by the CSG Project.

To read more about the estimated job loss click [here](#).

## Government update continued...

### Government explorer concession announced

The Minister for State Development and Minister for Natural Resources and Mines Dr Anthony Lynham announced a 50 per cent concession for resource explorers in February.

Dr Lynham said the concession meant that explorers only have to spend half of what they normally would to meet their exploration permit conditions.

The concession applies to companies exploring for all minerals other than coal and the government was investigating extending the concession to the coal exploration sector.

Dr Lynham said explorers would still be expected to undertake meaningful exploration to advance the geological knowledge or prospectivity of their tenure and meet their other obligations, including environmental obligations, annual rents and relinquishing sub-blocks.

Landholders are able to access free information and support from AgForce Projects regarding their rights and responsibilities when approached by an exploration company to conduct preliminary or advanced activities. Project staff can provide assistance to understand the land access framework as well as provide tips and tools to negotiate agreements with companies and how to better manage activities.

The concession applies from January 1 2016. For the full statement click [here](#).

### What's happening with water?

### New water plan for Queensland's south-west

The Palaszczuk Government announced new water plans for Queensland's South West in February 2016.

The new plan covers an area of south west Queensland from Bollon in the east through to Thargomindah in the west and from just south of Tambo in the north through to Hungerford on the Queensland-New South Wales border.

Minister for Natural Resources and Mines Dr Anthony Lynham said the new Warrego, Bulloo, Paroo and Nebine Water Resource Plan 2016 followed extensive consultation and includes input from other stakeholders such as the Northern Basin Aboriginal Nations, traditional owners and the Murray-Darling Basin Authority.

The new plan will:

- Establish a reserve of unallocated groundwater to support small-scale irrigation, stock and domestic requirements
- Provide small reserves of unallocated surface water to traditional owners with opportunities for them to pursue commercial ventures
- give balance between increased agricultural production and environmental protection
- Is the first to be prepared in line with Murray Darling Basin Plan requirements.

To read more about the plan click [here](#).

### Underground Water Impact Report released

The Office of Groundwater Impact Assessment (OGIA) has released the 2016 Surat Basin Underground Water Impact Report (UWIR) for public consultation.

AgForce Projects encourages landholders and community members to attend these information sessions hosted by OGIA to understand the modelling process and the predicted impacts from the coal seam gas (CSG) industry. The 2016 Surat Basin UWIR is the next iteration of the first groundwater model released in 2012 and predicts the immediate and long term impacts of the CSG industry on aquifers and water users across the Surat Basin Cumulative Management Area.

Landholders will hear from OGIA groundwater experts about the modelling process and gain an understanding of the predicted impacts and what this may mean for affected landholders. These sessions will outline further information that landholders can find about the model predictions as well as support available to affected landholders including free support through AgForce Projects CSG Project. Representatives from the CSG Compliance and Engagement Unit (DNRM) and the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (DEHP) will also attend these sessions to provide further information and answer landholder questions.

Two information sessions will be held each day from 2.00pm to 4.00pm and 7.00pm to 9.00pm in:

- Level 3, City Library, Toowoomba - Monday 11 April 2016
- Golf Club, Dalby - Tuesday 12 April 2016
- Club Hotel, Chinchilla - Wednesday 13 April 2016
- Cultural Centre, Wandoan - Thursday 14 April 2016  
\*Note: Only session from 7.00pm to 9.00pm
- Cultural Centre, Roma - Friday 15 April 2016

For more information on one of these sessions, or to register to attend click [here](#).

Can't make one of the information sessions? AgForce Projects will hold a webinar 'Underground Water Impact Report: What does it mean for you?' on Wednesday 27 April 2016, 1.00pm to 2.00pm. Click [here](#) for more information on the webinar.

## What's happening with water? Continued..

## Water Act Reform

As part of the process to reform the Water Act 2000 on 1 March the Parliamentary Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee handed down their report on the Water Legislation Amendment Bill 2015. This followed significant AgForce lobbying including a written submission and an appearance at a Committee hearing.

The Bill seeks to provide a number of amendments including:

- Proposals to bring mining operations under the same proactive groundwater framework as CSG companies; being the development of groundwater models predicting impacts before operations commence and requiring proactive make good agreements for any impacted landholder bores;
- Requirement that CSG companies obtain a water license for extracting water that is not obtained as a result of extracting CSG, for example drilling a bore purposefully to obtain water for camps or dust suppression would require a water license (called 'non-associated water') whereas 'associated water' is water that is extracted as part of the process of obtaining gas;
- The Bill removed Water Development Options (WDO), which sought to provide a conditional option for access to water by large scale projects, and in line with AgForce requests the Committee has recommended further investigation of alternative avenues for securing water for large scale projects while accounting for impacts on other users and their communities.

The Committee was not able to make a recommendation that the Bill be passed and so Parliament must consider the issues raised during further debate on the Bill. AgForce also called for a review of Chapter 3 provisions that relate to management of resource sector impacts on underground water resources and provided an extensive list of potential improvements. This framework is what governs the make good process, whereby if a resource company is predicted to have or is having an impact on a landholder's bore they are required to negotiate a make good agreement.

The Department of Environment and Heritage Protection has advised that it will undertake a review of Chapter 3 in 2016 and that stakeholders will have opportunity to provide input on the performance of and potential improvements to the framework.

Any landholders that have been approached to negotiate a make good agreement, have any questions about this process or believe their bore is experiencing an impact as a result of a resource activity they are encouraged to contact the projects team or the CSG Compliance Unit [csg.enquiries@dnrm.qld.gov.au](mailto:csg.enquiries@dnrm.qld.gov.au) or 4529 1500.

If you have any questions on the Water Act reforms or would like to provide your views on how the make good framework can be improved please notify Dale Miller on email or 07 3236 3100.

Is the first to be prepared in line with Murray Darling Basin Plan requirements.

To read more about the plan click [here](#).

## Federal Water Trigger Review

The Federal Government is being urged to retain the 'Water Trigger' legislation that aims to protect agricultural-related water resources from suffering irreparable damage caused by large coal mining or CSG projects.

The review was launched in November 2015 and the deadline for stakeholder submissions was January 2016.

The protections were introduced in the previous parliament by former New England Independent MP Tony Windsor, empowering the Independent Expert Scientific Committee on Coal Seam Gas and Large Coal Mining Development (IESC), scrutiny powers.

The National Farmers Federation has told to the review it's too soon to assess whether the legislation has actually been effective.

The Water Trigger started when the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act) was amended in mid-2013 which also prescribed the current review.

The review's terms of reference include; examining the regulation's effectiveness in protecting water resources from the impacts mining projects, including the IESC's role.

In its submission, the NFF said it retained the view that suitable and comprehensive State and Territory based regulations for large scale coal mining and CSG developments that protect agricultural production from the impact of coal mining and coal seam gas are preferred.

AgForce members can obtain a copy of the submission provided to the review by contacting Dr Dale Miller, 3236 3100 or [MillerD@agforceqld.org.au](mailto:MillerD@agforceqld.org.au).

The story run by Farm Weekly can be viewed [here](#), alternatively read more about the issues paper click [here](#).



*In other news...*

## Report into CSG Chemical due this year

The 'National Assessment of Chemicals Associated with Coal Seam Gas Extraction in Australia' report is due in 2016.

The National CSG Chemicals Assessment project examines human health and environmental risks from chemicals used in drilling and hydraulic fracturing for CSG extraction in Australia. It will inform the Australian Government, the Independent Expert Scientific Committee on Coal Seam Gas and Large Coal Mining Development (IESC), industry, and the public about the use and potential risks of these chemicals.

The report was originally due to be released by the end of 2013, but NICNAS director Dr Brian Richards had said the delays were partly due to recalculations of the "predicted environmental concentrations" of the chemicals used in CSG.

AgForce Projects advises landholders that are dealing with resource companies to obtain a list of the chemicals used and brought onto the property and request copies of the Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) for these materials. Landholders should be aware that in Queensland CSG operators are not allowed to use petroleum compounds benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene and xylene - also known as BTEX - as a deliberate component of hydraulic fracturing fluids.

For more information on the report click [here](#).

## Condamine River continues to bubble

The ABC has reported that landholders in the Condamine River are claiming the bubbling in the river is intensifying.

The ABC Report said the landholders in the area are calling on the State Government to find the cause of methane gas bubbling in a major river, which they say has intensified in recent months.

The so-called methane seeps in the Condamine River near Chinchilla were reported in 2012, triggering a series of investigations.

Complaints were made to the Department of Natural Resources and Mines (DNRM) in 2012 of reports of gas bubbling in the Condamine River. DNRM carried out a multi-agency review into the reports as well as investigations carried out by Origin Energy and QGC with reports released in 2012 and 2014. Copies of these reports are available [here](#).

AgForce Projects will continue to keep landholders and community members aware of developments into the Condamine River.

Landholders with concerns or complaints should contact the CSG Compliance Unit for more information: CSG Compliance Unit [csg.enquiries@dnrm.qld.gov.au](mailto:csg.enquiries@dnrm.qld.gov.au) or (07) 4529 1500.

## Bioregional Assessment Programme Update

Current water accounts and water quality products are now available for the Galilee, Maranoa-Balonne-Condamine and Gloucester subregions and for the Clarence-Moreton bioregion. These products provide current information about water resources in each of these areas, including water stores, flows, allocations, quality, sources and use. Current water account and water quality information will be used in subsequent model-data and impact analysis products.

The Australian Government are undertaking a programme of bioregional assessments in order to better understand the potential impacts of coal seam gas and large coal mining developments on water resources and water-related assets. These studies will analyse the ecology, hydrology, geology and hydrogeology of bioregions, with explicit assessment of potential direct, indirect and cumulative impacts on water resources both above and below ground.

All products published by the Bioregional Assessment Programme to date are available [here](#).

## CSG Net Update

CSG Net is a project run through the CSG Compliance Unit (DNRM) designed to assist landholders dealing with resource companies and any landholders with an interest in monitoring the health of their bores to understand groundwater systems and how to monitor their bore/s for any changes. The Project helps to set up coordinated groups of landholders (CSG Net Groups) and support them to monitor their bore/s and fill in the gaps in the current regional monitoring network.

The CSG Compliance Unit has contracted Landcare through two Natural Resource Management (NRM Groups) groups to support some of the CSG Net groups including: Queensland Murray Darling Committee (QMDC) covering Millmerran, Kumbarilla, Condamine, Miles, Noonga, Chinchilla, Wallumbilla North and South, Injune East; and Dawson Catchment Coordinating Association (DCCA) covering Eurombah Creek and Wandoan.

By partnering with Landcare the CSG unit aim to:

- Utilize the existing NRM networks, services and

communication methods to further engage landholders in the CSG Net program;

- Facilitate the formation and support of new and existing CSG Net groups;
- Help to coordinate and incorporate the provision of groundwater information to landholders; and
- Maintain regular communication between community groups and DNRM.

AgForce Projects recommends to all landholders that they should consider monitoring their bore and collect baseline data to demonstrate the bore condition and aquifer characteristics which are important to identify any impacts from resource activities. CSG Net provides a valuable opportunity for landholders to get the tools, knowledge and support to monitor their own bore and understand this valuable property asset.

**For more information on the CSG Net project and to become involved contact the CSG Compliance Unit [csg.enquiries@dnrm.qld.gov.au](mailto:csg.enquiries@dnrm.qld.gov.au) or call (07) 4529 1500.**

## Where are the Globes going?

One of the key messages AgForce has delivered through its CSG Project for the past five years is the importance of an effective property map when negotiating with CSG companies.

Access to resource information is also important from a producer's point of view so you know what is occurring within this industry. This was made possible by the Queensland Government through its open data policy and the release of the Queensland and CSG Globes.

Using Google Earth allows us to understand and appreciate the lay of the land and linking the various State Government globes provides us with a means to realising what is occurring in the resource sector.

Google Earth has two big brothers. Google Earth Pro and Google Earth Enterprise. Until December 2014 Google Earth Pro would cost you \$399US a year. Google then changed its business model and made Google Earth Pro free! Whilst this is not new information, it certainly gets you wondering why.

Irrespective of the 'whys' the result has definitely been beneficial to the public. Using either Google Earth or Google Earth Pro and linking maps from the various globes, Vegetation Management, Coal Seam Gas and of course the Queensland Globe itself (among others) provides a tool to assist in property management.

Reports earlier in 2015 also indicated Google would be getting out of the high end GIS market. Meaning the future of the current globe products is limited and the Queensland Government are now investigating an alternative solution.

What does this mean for those using Google Earth and the Queensland Globe products as a property management tool? Quite simply, watch this space.

At this stage it appears there is a front runner to take over the job as Google has been working closely with ESRI to provide an alternative platform. ESRI released its ArcGIS Earth application January 2016 and has been offering organisations using Google Earth Enterprise to switch to their enterprise platform.

DNRM was contacted last year to find out if they had a future direction in mind. They confirmed they are taking the situation seriously and acknowledge how critical their mapping services are to the public.

They intend to improve and expand Queensland Globe services by undertaking the following activities in direct response to the situation with Google:

- Engage an external consultant to review the current Globe products.
- Develop and trial a prototype for a new version of the Vegetation Management Portal as a transition flagship (planned release later this year)
- Continue to provide the existing Google Earth services (Queensland Globe etc.) in parallel for the short term
- Develop a transition strategy and a comprehensive communication plan which will commence early 2016.

One thing is certain, the demise of Google Earth Enterprise is happening. Anyone attending a Google Earth property mapping workshop because Google Earth Pro is free and links the globe platforms may need to look for additional training in 2017.

At some stage in the near future the Globes as we know them will cease to exist and transition to a new platform and will not work with any form of Google Earth.

For more information on these changes and support you need to develop property maps contact AgForce GIS Technical Officer Noel Brinsmead on (07) 3238 6043 or email [brinsmeadn@agforceqld.org.au](mailto:brinsmeadn@agforceqld.org.au).



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Advance Western Downs	<a href="http://www.advancewesterndowns.com.au/major-projects.html#IBK">www.advancewesterndowns.com.au/major-projects.html#IBK</a>
AgForce member contacts	3236 3100
Beyond Blue	1300 22 4636
Lifeline	13 11 14
CSG Globe	<a href="http://www.dnrm.qld.gov.au/mapping-data/queensland-globe/using-coal-seam-gas-globe">www.dnrm.qld.gov.au/mapping-data/queensland-globe/using-coal-seam-gas-globe</a>
DEHP Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process	<a href="http://www.ehp.qld.gov.au/management/impact-assessment/eis-processes/index.html">www.ehp.qld.gov.au/management/impact-assessment/eis-processes/index.html</a>
DEHP Environmental Authority lists	<a href="http://www.ehp.qld.gov.au/management/env-authorities/index.php">www.ehp.qld.gov.au/management/env-authorities/index.php</a>
DEHP fact sheets	<a href="http://www.ehp.qld.gov.au/management/coal-seam-gas/index.html">www.ehp.qld.gov.au/management/coal-seam-gas/index.html</a>
DEHP Make Good Guideline	<a href="http://www.ehp.qld.gov.au/management/pdf/good-obligations-guide.pdf">www.ehp.qld.gov.au/management/pdf/good-obligations-guide.pdf</a>
DEHP Permit and Licensing Management Unit – Mining Environmental Authorities (EA)	<a href="http://www.ehp.qld.gov.au/land/mining/chapter-5-notifications.html">www.ehp.qld.gov.au/land/mining/chapter-5-notifications.html</a>
GasFields Commission Qld	(07) 4542 7800 <a href="http://www.gasfieldscommissionqld.org.au/gasfields">www.gasfieldscommissionqld.org.au/gasfields</a>
MinesOnlineMaps	<a href="https://minesonlinemaps.business.qld.gov.au/">https://minesonlinemaps.business.qld.gov.au/</a>
Mining Registrar contacts	<a href="http://mines.industry.qld.gov.au/mining/contacts.htm">http://mines.industry.qld.gov.au/mining/contacts.htm</a>
OGIA UWIR online bore database	<a href="http://www.dnrm.qld.gov.au/ogia/surat-underground-water-impact-report/bore-search">www.dnrm.qld.gov.au/ogia/surat-underground-water-impact-report/bore-search</a>
Petroleum and Gas Inspectorate	<a href="http://mines.industry.qld.gov.au/safety-and-health/petroleum-gas-safety.htm">http://mines.industry.qld.gov.au/safety-and-health/petroleum-gas-safety.htm</a>
Pollution reporting hotline	1300 130 372
<b>Industry</b>	
Australian Petroleum Production & Exploration Association (APPEA)	<a href="http://www.appea.com.au">www.appea.com.au</a>
Arrow Energy	<a href="http://www.arrowenergy.com.au">www.arrowenergy.com.au</a>
Origin	<a href="http://www.originenergy.com.au/1143/Coal-seam-gas">www.originenergy.com.au/1143/Coal-seam-gas</a>
QGC	<a href="http://www.qgc.com.au">www.qgc.com.au</a>
Santos	<a href="http://www.santos.com/coal-seam-gas.aspx">www.santos.com/coal-seam-gas.aspx</a>

For more information or to register or request a CSG workshop in your town visit:

[www.agforceprojects.org.au](http://www.agforceprojects.org.au)

The CSG Project Team is dedicated to helping you safeguard the future prosperity of your farming enterprise.

Contact the team today with any enquiries.



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