

AgForce Projects

CSG NEWSLETTER



[Edition 19, October 2016]

WELCOME to the September edition of the AgForce Projects CSG newsletter.

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.

If you would like the team to visit a town near you submit your expression of interest [here](#). Didn't receive this newsletter in your inbox? [SUBSCRIBE HERE](#)

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CSG and Mining Landholder Support Project Extended For Another Year

AgForce are excited to announce that Queensland landholders will continue to access free assistance and information to better understand their rights and responsibilities regarding coal seam gas and mining, with the CSG and Mining Landholder Support Project extended until June 2017.

AgForce CEO Charles Burke said AgForce Projects had provided support to more than 5,200 landholders through workshops, field days, information sessions and one-on-one assistance since the program first began in 2011.

"Coal seam gas and resource developments are an important issue for landholders and will continue to be into the future, which is why we are encouraging landholders to access this independent service - at no cost to them - while they still can," he said.

Brigid Price of 'Hillyvale' in the Arcadia Valley, recently attended one of the Advanced CSG Negotiation Preparation workshops in Injune because she "wanted to be able to negotiate from an educated position".

"The assistance and advice was invaluable and we have been able to move forward and negotiate from a much stronger position as a result. We have been able to move past the feeling that the situation is not fair and now focus on what is a reasonable compensation," she said.

The program is funded with the support of the Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, the Department of Natural Resources and Mines, the Australian Petroleum Production and Exploration Association (APPEA) and the Queensland Resources Council.

AgForce Projects Needs Your Assistance

In October/November this year the CSG and Mining Project will be conducting another annual survey following successfully surveys conducted in 2014 and 2015.

The survey is designed to assist the CSG and Mining team to understand your information needs and what you require from the Project to assist you to manage resource negotiations, 'Make Good' negotiations and ongoing activities.

[Click here to see the results of the 2015 survey.](#)

The survey is an important tool that helps the projects team track landholder confidence in the industry, regulators and groundwater science as well as understand landholder satisfaction with conduct and compensation agreements (CCAs) and identify where the project, industry and government can work to improve.

Please be on the lookout for the survey in your inbox in October. AgForce Projects are greatly appreciative of the time you have taken to complete the survey.

For more information, or to register for one of our events call 3238 6048 or visit www.agforceprojects.org.au.

Land Access Negotiations: Will It Affect The Value Of Your Property?

When dealing with CSG or mining activities potentially occurring on your property, landholders should seek professional valuation advice to see what the impact of the proposed activity could have on their property and how they may be able to better negotiate compensation.

A professional valuation service could include the consideration of the positive and negative impacts of CSG and mining activities on their property as well as understanding any potential impacts on the property value. Part of this process is to assess:

- The potential loss of productivity due to the disturbance and negative impact of the activities, which may result in a reduction in value; and
- Also any positive value of an income derived from resource activities.

John Moore is a property valuer with 11 years' experience in rural valuations throughout most of Queensland and has joined

AgForce to help members with valuation advice.

Mr Moore says that "Ultimately, if you have CSG or mining activities occurring on your property, it may have an effect on your valuation".

As part of the service, AgForce members can contact John Moore to receive advice on how CSG and mining may affect your valuation and how you may be able to utilise compensation to effectively overcome any negative impacts.

As part of conduct and compensation agreements (CCAs) resource companies are required to reimburse landholders for the necessary and reasonable legal, accounting and valuation fees they incur in order to prepare and negotiate an agreement. AgForce Projects encourages landholders to utilise this professional advice to ensure they are minimising the potential impacts while working to maximise any benefits.

To book a consultation with John, call AgForce on 3236 3100.



New Groundwater Laws Will Reduce Pressure on Landholders

New laws introduced into State Parliament will help take the pressure off landholders dealing with resources companies on underground water issues.

AgForce CEO Charles Burke said the impact on vital agricultural water supplies by resource projects remained a key concern for primary producers, and proposed new environmental laws were a positive step towards improved groundwater management.

"Primary producers want up-front certainty that their access to water will be secure and will not be interrupted or impaired by mining or gas sector activities," he said.

"This means having confidence that the risk to water assets are understood, that impacts are avoided in the first instance and that any residual impacts can be managed and 'made good'.

AgForce acknowledges that the Queensland Government's proposed new laws will address a number of issues for landholders, and will assist landholders in engaging and negotiating with resource companies about managing the impact on groundwater."

"AgForce is particularly pleased that landholders will have direct access to independent hydrogeological expertise to help them understand the potential impacts of resource projects and to better negotiate effective 'make good' agreements. The

amendments also clarify that 'make good' obligations on the resource sector will apply where there is a likelihood, rather than a certainty, that their activities cause or contribute to water supply problems."

"This should take some of the pressure off landholders having to prove that resource companies were in fact responsible for groundwater impacts where uncertainty exists."

Mr Burke said extending 'make good' obligations to include gassy bores, the requirement for resources companies to cover the costs of alternative dispute resolution processes and including a cooling-off period for 'make good' agreements were all positive proposals.

AgForce will review the detail of the proposed legislation in coming weeks, and provide further comment through the Parliamentary committee process. AgForce members and any landholders with any input to guide the organisation submission please contact the CSG Project Team on (07) 3238 6048 or [email](#).

The CSG Project will continue to liaise between all levels of Government and industry to ensure landholder experiences and feedback are provided and will inform landholders about how these proposed changes may affect you.

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](#).

Arrow Energy Updates Communities in the Surat Basin

More than a hundred people attended Arrow Energy community information sessions in Wandoan, Miles, Chinchilla, Dalby and Cecil Plains in July. The sessions provided the latest details on Arrow's activities including expanded Surat gas operations, groundwater monitoring, ecology surveys, project planning and results of recent seismic work.

"In the past few years Arrow has focused on expanding our domestic gas infrastructure in the Surat Basin, including the \$250 million expansion of our Daandine Central Gas Processing Facility," Arrow Energy Vice President Leisa Elder said.

"As part of this work, we are committed to ongoing research and developments to continue to demonstrate the science behind our gas operations, minimise our impacts and maximise co-existence. Our information sessions provided the opportunity to showcase some of these studies and we had a cross-section of subject matter experts in attendance to answer questions from local residents," Ms Elder said.

Arrow's focus remains to develop its sizeable gas reserves in both the Surat and Bowen basins. Planning for the Surat Gas Project continues.

Presentations as well as Questions and Answers from each session are [available by clicking here](#).

[Additional information and fact sheets are available here](#).

AgForce Projects understands that landholders are busy managing their own property and businesses but where possible we encourage landholders and community members to continue to stay informed of developments in the CSG industry and we believe that sessions such as these provide an important opportunity to engage and interact with company representatives as well as discuss concerns with relevant experts.

With the number of wells in the Surat Basin expected to reach between 18,000 to 40,000 over the life of the industry and about 6,000 production wells currently drilled, we strongly encourage landholders to remain aware of their rights and responsibilities.

Attending an AgForce Projects FREE CSG and Mining support workshop can provide you with all the information and knowledge to bring you up to date.

[Click here for more information](#) relating to the CSG Project including upcoming workshops and contacting a project officer for support.

QGC and the Queensland Government Develop Drone Technology Partnership

The Advance Queensland project follows a partnership between Shell's QGC project and Boeing that has developed the world's first commercial use of beyond-line-of-sight RPAS. The RPAS monitor natural gas wells and associated infrastructure which, until now, have mostly been inspected on the ground by four-wheel-drive.

Shell's Vice President QGC Tony Nunan said: "The project is proud to be introducing into our operations an emerging technology that will benefit both the resources and agriculture sectors.

"Landowners will benefit, over time, from fewer visits to their properties while QGC and the community will benefit from fewer vehicles on the roads. Our remotely piloted aircraft is operated by a world leader in this field in strict compliance with air safety regulations and following 18 months of successful trials."

The Advance Queensland project will further support safe RPAS operations by ensuring awareness of all other aircraft in the

vicinity of a flight. It will also involve development of technology to enable a wider range of uses of data gathered.

This will enable broader adoption of RPAS by other industries including agriculture.

Insitu Pacific operates the aircraft, which have a 3m wingspan and fly at 1,500-2,000ft, in compliance with air safety regulations of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA).

AgForce Projects are supportive of approaches to minimise the impact and disruption of managing resource operations to landholders' businesses. AgForce will continue to engage with industry on improvements and technology advances such as this to continue to reduce the impacts from CSG and we encourage landholders to contact us with ideas and observations you have from your experience to further reduce this impact.

[Click here for more information](#).



*Company update continued...***QGC Indicates Treated CSG Water Helps Sustain Farm Production and Increases Crop Yields**

QGC's water management strategy, which is aimed at treating produced CSG water and making it available to landholders, industry and community, is delivering benefits to Western Downs primary producers according to a QGC statement. QGC through SunWater provides water to around 20 farms growing edible and fodder crops and the rest of the water is piped to homes and businesses in the town of Chinchilla.

QGC operates two water treatment plants The Kenya Water Treatment plant near Chinchilla and the Northern Water Treatment Plant near Wandoan and together they regularly make around 97 per cent of produced water suitable for beneficial use.

Water from the company's southern and central tenements in the Surat Basin is transported by pipeline to the Kenya Plant which can treat up to 92 megalitres a day, with delivery dependent on availability.

From here the water enters the Kenya to Chinchilla pipeline, a

SunWater owned and operated pipeline that takes the treated water to local landholders along the pipeline route and to the Chinchilla Weir on the Condamine River.

AgForce Projects supports the use of treated CSG water being made available for landholders and used to offset groundwater impacts where water treatment standards are in place to ensure no impact to the receiving environment or adverse agricultural impacts. We advise any landholders that are engaging in discussions to develop short or long term water use agreements, to ensure they seek appropriate professional advice regarding the quality/suitability of supply, the assurances on duration and the compatibility with existing farm infrastructure.

For more information on these stories:

- [Visit the BG Group website](#) and
- [The Advance Queensland funding to advance remotely piloted aircraft tech in Queensland media release](#)

2016 Surat Basin Underground Water Impact Report (UWIR) Approved

The 2016 Surat Basin Underground Water Impact Report (UWIR) has been approved by the Queensland Government following a draft model released earlier this year. [Click here for the current model.](#)

The UWIR models the cumulative groundwater impacts from the CSG industry across the Surat Basin Cumulative Management Area (CMA) and predicts impacts to groundwater users and took effect on 19 September 2016.

The model predicts two areas of potential impact; the [Immediately Affected Area \(IAA\)](#), which are bores that are predicted to exceed a trigger threshold within three years of the model, and the [Long-Term Affected Area \(LTAA\)](#) which are bores likely to experience an impact outside this initial three-year period.

The model has predicted that there will be 459 bores across the LTAA and 91 bores within the IAA. The IAA includes 34 bores that were carried over from the 2012 model and an additional 57 bores which have been brought into this area.

What does this mean for landholders?

Now that the model has been approved, CSG companies are required to pro-actively approach landholders whose bores have been identified in the IAA to begin negotiations to develop Make Good agreements. These agreements may include deepening the bore, drilling another bore, providing an alternative supply, providing compensation or monitoring the bore.

There are no prescriptive requirements for Make Good measures under the Make Good framework as it is a negotiation between the landholder and the responsible CSG company. As such it is important that landholders understand the groundwater modelling process as well as the Make Good framework supported by this and their rights and responsible under this framework.

To provide assistance to landholders the AgForce Projects CSG and Mining Team will be [presenting a webinar on 25 October 2016](#) to provide landholders with information and assistance covering all aspects of the modelling process including your rights and responsibilities, how to find more information and the next steps of the Make Good framework.

Landholders who have been approached to develop Make Good agreements are encouraged to contact the AgForce Projects CSG and Mining team for support and to ensure they are receiving all the information to assist them in this important process.

We would also like to remind landholders that under this framework you are entitled to seek legal, accounting and valuation services, and the CSG company is required to pay these necessary and reasonable costs.

Recently the Queensland Government announced a series of draft changes which may include the ability for landholders to seek independent hydrogeological advice as part of the Make Good process and AgForce will continue to work with the government to ensure landholders have access to this critical advice and communicate any changes to all landholders affected.

The Office of Groundwater Impact Assessment (OGIA) who develop the model, have provided an online portal which allows landholders to search for their bore (by registered bore number) at [OGIA UWIR Bore Search Portal](#), to determine if their bore is within the IAA or LTAA areas.

AgForce Projects strongly encourages all landholders with a registered bore to visit this portal and contact the CSG and Mining Team with any questions. It is important for all landholders to recognise that the UWIR only predicts impacts to registered bores, so if you have an unregistered bore it will not be included.

AgForce Projects recognises that groundwater security is a critical concern for many landholders and we wish to remind those with any questions that the AgForce CSG project is here to support your needs and we encourage you to contact a CSG and Mining team member with any questions.

Contact a CSG Project Officer on csg@agforceprojects.org.au or phone (07) 3236 3100.

Landholders should also contact the CSG Compliance Unit (Department of Natural Resources and Mines) for any questions relating to this process or if you believe your bore is being impacted on 07 4529 1500 or at csg.enquiries@dnrm.qld.gov.au

Government update

Budget Backs Coal Seam Gas Specialist Team

The Queensland Government is investing more than \$7 million over two years to support landholders and communities co-existing with the Coal Seam Gas industry. Minister for State Development and Minister for Natural Resources and Mines Dr Anthony Lynham said the money would be allocated over two years to fund the ongoing operations of the specialist Coal Seam Gas Compliance Unit.

“The unit is a one-stop-shop for community and landholder enquiries, concerns and assistance relating to CSG issues,” Dr Lynham said. “The government expects landholders and industry to treat each other with mutual respect and the CSG compliance unit is an integral part of maintaining the relationship.”

The unit comprises groundwater experts and field staff skilled in environment and land access issues and currently has 25 fulltime positions based in Toowoomba, Roma and Brisbane.

Unit field officers provide services throughout the Surat, Bowen and Galilee Basins. The unit has responded to more than 2,000 enquiries since it was established in 2011.

The role of the compliance unit includes:

- Investigating landholder complaints about potential water bore impacts by CSG operations;

- Audits and inspections relating to CSG land access issues and weed hygiene on properties
- Working with landholders to manage CCA negotiations and any compliance or compliant issues related to CSG.

The CSG Project works closely with the CSG Compliance Unit and sees their function as a very important role in managing the industry and working with both landholders and the resources sector. The Unit contains valuable groundwater expertise within the groundwater investigation and assessment team (GIAT) who provide expert advice to landholders with bore complaints. The unit runs an important project called CSG Net which aims to provide landholders with the knowledge, tools and equipment to monitor their own bore and develop an early detection system to safeguard any impacts.

We strongly encourage any landholders with CCA complaints, concerns or issues to contact the CSG Compliance Unit for information and support and to utilise the groundwater expertise in regards to bore assessments or complaints. We also encourage landholders to actively engage with the Unit through CSG Net to take control of one of your most valuable assets and start a bore monitoring program.

To contact the CSG Compliance Unit call (07) 4529 1500 or [email](#).

Mineral and Other Legislation Amendment Bill

The Queensland Parliament has “restored balance between the rights of farmers, miners, and the community” by introducing and passing legislation to reinstall landholder and community objection rights to mining projects, according to the Queensland Government.

The Mineral and Other Legislation Amendment Bill was introduced in May this year and re-introduced community and landholder objection rights to large mining projects as well as introducing a standardised restricted land framework for all resource industries including CSG and mining with changes coming into effect on 27 September 2016.

Under the laws the Government indicated that proposed resource activities will include:

- A 50 metre buffer zone (unless a landholder consents to activities) around key infrastructure such as principal stockyards, bores and artesian wells, dams and artificial water storages connected to a water supply;
- A 200m buffer (unless a landholder consents to activities) around permanent buildings including places of residence;
- Provide landholders with the option to ‘opt out’ of the provisions of the land access framework; and
- The right to prevent any mining lease being granted over restricted land without the consent of the owner.

AgForce members can log onto the member’s login section of the AgForce website to download a copy of the submission provided to these proposals. **AgForce Projects would like to remind landholders that before a resource company can conduct ‘advanced activities’ (i.e. drilling a well, clearing**

tracks or well pads etc.) they must negotiate a Conduct and Compensation Agreement (CCA) with you prior to these activities taking place.

The inclusion of the ‘opt-out’ clause of these amendments provides the ability, **where the landholder and the company agree**, to remove the requirement to progress through the land access framework including a minimum of 20 business days to negotiate an agreement as well as further time frames through a mediation process. AgForce Projects strongly encourages all landholders who are considering this approach or have been approached to ‘opt-out’ to contact the CSG Project Team or the CSG Compliance Unit for information on this process to ensure they are fully aware of their rights and responsibilities. **There is no requirement to agree to opt-out of the land access process and this can only occur where the landholder agrees.**

The Department of Natural Resources and Mines (DNRM) has provided information to help explain these changes as part of the Queensland Government’s approach to streamline various resource Acts into a common resources Act.

Other important components of this Bill include:

- That CCAs will be noted on title (similar to an easement on property title);
- The development of standard land access agreements for CSG, coal and minerals;
- Updates to the 2010 Land Access Code; and
- Processes for managing overlapping CSG and coal tenures.

For more on this story, [click here](#).

*Government update continued ...***Annual Exploration Program Focuses on Engagement With Stakeholders**

The Department of Natural Resources and Mines (DNRM) has released its first [Annual Exploration Program 2016-17](#) which has been developed with a key emphasis on 'communication and engagement' with directly affected stakeholders.

Landowners, traditional owners, local government, key community groups and peak representative groups have all been engaged with, by the Department in the process of developing a forward schedule of exploration opportunities in the 2016-17 financial year. The state-wide program outlines tender locations, competitive tender processes and release dates for the exploration of minerals, petroleum, gas and coal in Queensland.

The Annual exploration program gives stakeholders advance notice on proposed exploration in their areas and the opportunity to clarify any questions they may have to better understand the competitive tendering process and be prepared for future exploration.

At the start of each exploration competitive tender process, a public notice will be published in local newspapers and the DNRM website will be updated to reflect the progress of the different competitive tender processes. DNRM will continue to engage with directly affected stakeholders and peak body groups as well as providing opportunities to ask questions and seek clarity.

More information about the engagement process is available in the [Annual Exploration Program](#). DNRM will call for tenders progressively during 2016-17 financial year with exploration areas being grouped by commodity for the purposes of this process.

At the conclusion of the tendering process, the preferred applicant will also engage stakeholders before on-ground exploration activities start. This includes making contact with landowners and relevant [native title claimants](#) to begin discussions and negotiations, for example, about [land access arrangements](#) and compensation agreements.

For more information about the Annual Exploration Program call 07 3199 8239 or to talk to a DNRM officer about [land access and environment](#) call the CSG Enquiries Hotline on 07 4529 1500.

AgForce Projects and the CSG Compliance Unit will be holding workshops on-ground to engage directly with landholders about the new tenures being released and to inform them about the process involved in providing feedback to the Department in assessing applications.

[Click here to read the First Exploration Plan Delivers for Resources Sector & Locals media release.](#)

For more information on Incentive Opportunities, [click here](#).

New Land Court President Appointed

Attorney-General and Minister for Justice Yvette D'Ath has appointed Judge Fleur Kingham as the new President of the Land Court of Queensland. Judge Kingham is a District Court Judge, a Judge of the Children's Court of Queensland and a Judge of the Planning and Environment Court.

Judge Kingham has also been a member of Land Court and Deputy President of the Land and Resources Tribunal.

"Prior to her appointment to the bench, Judge Kingham

worked as an environmental lawyer, advised government on environmental and resources law, and mediated complex disputes including indigenous land and governance issues." Attorney-General and Minister for Justice Yvette D'Ath said.

Judge Kingham's appointment term commenced Monday, 8 August 2016.

[Read the media release here.](#)

Court Appeal Against Hancock/GVK Galilee Mine Dismissed

The Queensland Court of Appeal has dismissed an appeal from an environmental group to stop GVK and Hancock Coal's proposed Alpha coal mine in the Galilee Basin.

Conservation group Coast and Country argued in the Land Court that the burning of coal from the mine would create emissions that contribute to global warming.

However, the court determined the mine's emissions to be "infinitesimal", and made recommendations over any mining lease be based on different grounds. The decision determined the Land Court had no jurisdiction over the effects of emissions.

GVK Hancock spokesman Josh Euler said the four-year legal battle had come to an end, signalling the mine can now create thousands of jobs in the state. He added that the site would now go through the mining lease approval process before beginning construction.

Landholders concerned about the possible impacts from this mine are encouraged to contact the CSG and Mining Project for support at csq@agforceprojects.org.au or call (07) 3236 3100.

[Click here for more on this story.](#)



Research update

AgForce Projects recognises the value and importance that quality research into the potential impacts of CSG and mining brings to the discussion surrounding these industries as well as the interaction with agriculture, how it works to provide greater knowledge and informed debate.

The CSG Project has been working with numerous research organisations including the University of Queensland Centre for CSG to bring this important and quality research to landholders as well as communities. The Project is aiming to co-host another research forum in the Surat Basin bringing

together landholders, communities, Government and industry representatives to share this valuable information and continuing the discussion on how to better manage the development of the industry to maximise the benefits to rural Queensland while minimising the impacts.

[An overview of a previous research forum conducted in Roma 2015 can be found here.](#)

Below provides an update to a number of important projects being conducted by UQ Centre for CSG and the CSIRO.

University of Queensland Research: Interactions Between Coal Seam Gas Development and Agriculture

A University of Queensland team led by Professor Jim Cavaye and Lisa Kelly has now completed research into the effects of coal seam gas (CSG) development on agricultural production and profitability.

The researchers completed 47 interviews and on-farm assessments with landholders in the Maranoa and Western Downs Regional Council areas between February and July 2014.

Three landholders then participated in a 10-month monitoring trial of measures of effects of CSG operations on production and profitability, ending in November 2015.

This research revealed:

- The nature and extent of impacts of CSG operations on farms
- A set of objective measures of these impacts
- More precise definition of facets of 'co-existence' between CSG and farming
- Responses and strategies used by landholders to manage interactions with CSG companies, their staff, and contractors.

Researchers identified the critical importance of (1) exchanging information and providing transparency, (2) the key role of intermediaries (such as government staff, lawyers and AgForce staff) and (3) relationships of mutual respect.

The research team presented interim results in landholder meetings in Miles and Roma and in public forums in Brisbane and Roma in August 2015. Research findings are currently undergoing independent external review.

A final public report is being finalised for release in October 2016, and the team is aiming to have forums in Roma and Brisbane to share the results with landholders, industry, and government. Announcements about these forums will be made via the AgForce network.

The team would like to thank the membership of AgForce, as many of you contributed to this research by giving your time and insight for a research interview and a tour of your property.

Please direct any enquiries about this research to UQ c/- Dr Will Rifkin on 0401 701 217 or [email](#).

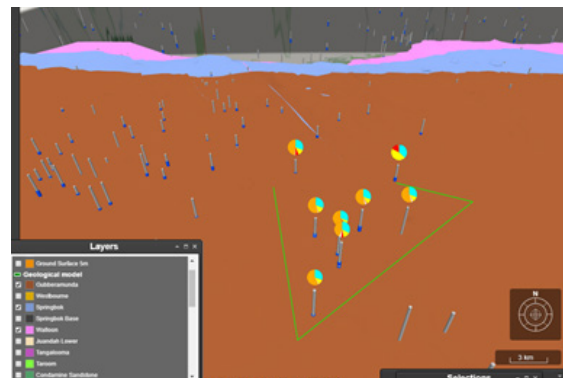
Water Atlas for CSG Fields Looking for Trial Users

The University of Queensland's Centre for Coal Seam Gas researchers have developed an online Water Chemistry Atlas that allows users to view groundwater data in 3D. The Atlas is a unified source of groundwater level data, groundwater chemistry data, hydrogeological layers and analysis tools.

The water level and chemistry data in the Atlas are from the state government groundwater database. The Water Atlas also contains the latest geological model of the Surat Basin prepared for the State Government Office of Groundwater Impact Assessment (OGIA).

As shown in the image on the right, bores are represented as pipes with blue rings indicating the casing perforations through which water is drawn (see figure on the right).

The geological model is depicted as different coloured layers and geological structural elements such as faults, syncline and anticlines are also included in the system. Users can draw cross-sections and view changes in water chemistry across the basin.



The Water Atlas is being prepared for Public release and is looking for a small number of community members to trail the system prior to release. To participate in this trial you will need to have access to a good internet connection and the web browser Google Chrome or Mozilla Firefox installed on your computer.

[More information can be found here.](#)

Research update continued ...

UQ Insights on Community Changes

How has Chinchilla fared relative to Miles and Roma over the past few years? What about Moranbah? Toowoomba? Wallumbilla? Trends from 2001 to 2015 in employment, housing costs, population, crime rates, business income and other factors can [now be seen online](#).

This information covers an array of gasfield communities and provides benchmarks – the Queensland or Brisbane average. There is a feature story on significant changes in the housing market since 2001, with the upswing in 2011 and drop off from 2014 and the ripple effects on schools and social services. You can also find a web link to a UQ study of what enabled some small businesses to thrive while others faced tougher prospects.

This UQ website has statistical data but also information from interviewing key figures in each community. The interviews tell us what the statistics do not say – how things happened.

Some of this information may not be news to you, as you have lived through it. However, the data and insights have been welcomed by senior figures in the CSG industry and Queensland government.

The UQ research team aims to provide updates for the next two years. There will also be short articles on key issues added in coming months. Thank you to those of you who were interviewed for this study. This study was funded by [UQ's Centre for Coal Seam Gas](#).

CSIRO to Live Stream Air Quality Data from CSG Regions

CSIRO, through the Gas Industry Social and Environmental Research Alliance (GISERA), is leading a study which includes the collection of air quality measurements through a network of five ambient air quality stations in the Chinchilla, Miles and Condamine region.

The data collected is streamed live to the [Queensland Department of Environment and Heritage Protection](#) website where it can be accessed by the public.

CSIRO atmospheric researcher Sarah Lawson said live streaming the data showed transparency of the data collection process.

“The data is accessible to everyone which means local communities and the general public can stay informed about the air quality in the Western Downs region, how it compares to other parts of Queensland and how levels compare to the government’s air quality standards,” Ms Lawson said.

An air quality model will also be used to explore the degree to which different emission sources in the Surat Basin contribute to the levels of air pollution. The model includes a variety of natural and man-made emission sources including the CSG industry, power stations, mines, livestock production, motor vehicles, bushfires, and vegetation. By running the model with different emission sources switched on and off, the degree of contribution from sources, including the CSG industry can be investigated.

“Both the air quality data and modelling results can be used by government to inform policy and regulations around CSG development and by industry to focus on improving practices that reduce emissions of pollutants” Ms Lawson said.

[Further information can be found here](#).



In other news...

Victoria to Permanently Ban Fracking

The Victorian Government is introducing legislation to permanently ban exploration and development of unconventional gas in the state, including Coal Seam Gas and Fracking. The legislation – the first of its kind in Australia – will be introduced into State Parliament later this year. The legislation will also extend the moratorium on conventional onshore gas until 2020, but offshore gas exploration and development will continue.

Victorian Farmers Federation president David Jochinke said while some landholders might miss out on an opportunity to make

money if they have gas on their land, the decision was in the state's greater good.

"The science isn't conclusive that it isn't going to affect other landholders. So one landholder may say 'Yes', but that affects the whole aquifer and if something doesn't go right, we don't have the science to understand what is going on.

"We're erring on the side of safety on this, and making sure that everything's in place, and for us this is a good outcome that achieves that."

For more information, [click here](#).

Queensland Rural, Regional and Remote Women's Network (QRRRW) State Conference to be held in Roma 6-8th October

Women from across Queensland are heading to the Maranoa region for the 23rd Queensland Rural, Regional and Remote Women's Network (QRRRW) State Conference, 'Cultivating Confident Women' in Roma from 6-8 October 2016.

A diverse volunteer group of Maranoa women have created an outstanding program for conference attendees and are delighted to bring this opportunity to the region - to nourish, empower and grow RRR women.

Local committee member Brigid Price is excited to be part of the team bringing the conference to Roma.

"By showcasing the Maranoa region and bringing inspirational speakers and diverse workshop presenters to Roma, QRRRW is presenting the local community with an amazing opportunity.

"We want to encourage as many women as possible to invest in themselves. QRRRW was developed to build the networks and the capacity of all rural, regional and remote women and this conference does exactly that.

QRRRW is a 99% volunteer run non-profit organisation with a 22-year history of capacity building and raising the profile of rural regional and remote women.

There are both full conference packages and single day admission tickets available. Bursaries are also being offered to subsidise the cost of attendance for both women from the Maranoa and also women from anywhere in Queensland who are drought affected. Applications can be made via the QRRRW website. [Click here to register or for further information](#).



AgForce Projects CSG team	(07) 3238 6048 csg@agforceprojects.org.au
CSG Compliance Unit	(07) 4529 1500 csg.enquiries@dnrm.qld.gov.au
Advance Western Downs	www.advancewesterndowns.com.au/major-projects.html#IBK
AgForce member contacts	3236 3100
Beyond Blue	1300 22 4636
Lifeline	13 11 14
CSG Globe	www.dnrm.qld.gov.au/mapping-data/queensland-globe/using-coal-seam-gas-globe
DEHP Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process	www.ehp.qld.gov.au/management/impact-assessment/eis-processes/index.html
DEHP Environmental Authority lists	www.ehp.qld.gov.au/management/env-authorities/index.php
DEHP fact sheets	www.ehp.qld.gov.au/management/coal-seam-gas/index.html
DEHP Make Good Guideline	www.ehp.qld.gov.au/management/pdf/good-obligations-guide.pdf
DEHP Permit and Licensing Management Unit – Mining Environmental Authorities (EA)	www.ehp.qld.gov.au/land/mining/chapter-5-notifications.html
GasFields Commission Qld	(07) 4542 7800 www.gasfieldscommissionqld.org.au/gasfields
MinesOnlineMaps	https://minesonlinemaps.business.qld.gov.au/
Mining Registrar contacts	http://mines.industry.qld.gov.au/mining/contacts.htm
OGIA UWIR online bore database	www.dnrm.qld.gov.au/ogia/surat-underground-water-impact-report/bore-search
Petroleum and Gas Inspectorate	http://mines.industry.qld.gov.au/safety-and-health/petroleum-gas-safety.htm
Pollution reporting hotline	1300 130 372
Industry	
Australian Petroleum Production & Exploration Association (APPEA)	www.appea.com.au
Arrow Energy	www.arrowenergy.com.au
Origin	www.originenergy.com.au/1143/Coal-seam-gas
QGC	www.qgc.com.au
Santos	www.santos.com/coal-seam-gas.aspx

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

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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