

AgForce Projects

CSG NEWSLETTER



[Edition 20, December 2016]

WELCOME to the December edition of the AgForce Projects CSG & Mining newsletter and the last edition for the year.

In this newsletter, we provide our regular update on CSG and mining activity across the Surat, Bowen and Galilee Basins, as well as an update on the new carbon capture and storage project west of Wandoan. You will also be able to read updates on new Queensland Government mining approvals and recent changes to groundwater laws, the GasFields Commission Review, and a roundup of the latest events AgForce Projects have hosted.

AgForce Projects would like to thank those who attended workshops and participated in events this year. Your support in helping us to deliver factual, balanced and useful information regarding CSG & mining has been invaluable.

Planning is underway for 2017, and we want to hear from you!

If there is a particular CSG or mining related workshop or field day you would be interested in having in your region, please register your interest on our website or email the CSG & Mining Team at csg@agforceprojects.org.au

We look forward to continuing the project in 2017 and so keep an eye out for upcoming events and dates.

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Queensland Government Releases Review of the GasFields Commission

The GasFields Commission was established in 2013 in response to the significant development and expansion of the CSG industry in Queensland. It was tasked with the role of managing and improving the sustainable co-existence of CSG and agriculture.

After three years of operating, the Commission underwent a review process commencing in March 2016 by Mr Bob Scott, a retired member of the Land Court of Queensland.

The review as well as the recommendations were released by the Queensland Government in December this year. The Review identified the various strengths, weaknesses, challenges and risks facing the Commission.

The Review made 18 overarching recommendations for the future role of the Commission and alternative means for facilitating relationships between stakeholders, as the CSG industry moves into what has been termed an 'advanced' and 'mature stage' of development- meaning that it has moved from large construction to operation and production.

This new stage and development of the industry will present new challenges, risks and opportunities. Noting that there are approximately 6,000 wells in production and with industry estimates of 18,000-40,000 wells, significant development still has to occur.

The 18 recommendations of the Review fall under four broad areas, with some having application beyond the CSG industry to include all mineral exploration and mining activities on agricultural land:

- Stakeholder & regional community liaison and consultation;
- Extension and Communication Programme;
- Alternative Disputes Resolution; and
- Arbitration.

The review has also resulted in a reduction in the number of Commissioners and a new chair, replacing John Cotter. Former Queensland Farmers' Federation (QFF) boss Ruth Wade will head the new-look commission, which will have a new focus.

The new-look commission will:

- Reduce to one chair and three part-time commissioners;
- Improve the information that is available to landholders;
- Set up a community reference group to focus on health and wellbeing concerns for residents and their families in areas such as the Tara Estates; and
- Work with the various agencies in the CSG industry to clarify their responsibilities and how they respond to inquiries and complaints.

As part of the review, an independent ombudsman is to be appointed to work with Queensland landholders and gas companies on CSG issues. State Development Minister Dr Anthony Lynham said the new land access ombudsman was a central element of a revamp of the state's Gasfields Commission and CSG dispute resolution system.

"The new ombudsman will give landholders a trusted and independent decision maker to resolve issues before they escalate into full blown legal disputes". Dr Lynham said.

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

“A more streamlined dispute resolution will be more cost-effective and efficient as well. Government will work with stakeholders, including the recently appointed President of the Land Court, to finalise legislative and regulatory changes to make this happen.”

AgForce Projects would like to thank John Cotter for his leadership and work at the Commission while chairman and note the contribution that he has made through this role.

Queensland Government Launches Gas Discussion Paper

The Department of Natural Resources and Mines (DNRM) have recently released a discussion paper to facilitate industry-wide consultation while the Queensland Gas Supply & Demand Action Plan reaches its final stages, due for release mid 2017.

The discussion paper, unveiled in November by Queensland Minister for Natural Resources Dr Anthony Lynham, aims to facilitate consultation with various industry groups such as peak resource, agriculture, environment and community groups, as well as landholders, traditional owners and the general community.

The discussion paper outlines reform ideas to maximise the supply of affordable gas and includes suggestions for addressing an array of community concerns.

The 38 page document outlines 29 reform ideas aimed to spark

The CSG & Mining Team will continue to work with the Commission and the Queensland Government regarding the direction of the Commission and the introduction of a land access ombudsmen and will advise all landholders of this process.

For more information on this story and to view the full review, [click here](#).

discussion in the lead up to the release of the Queensland Gas Supply and Demand Action Plan next year.

According to Dr Lynham, the Action Plan itself has been developed to help tackle the challenges of the gas industry and maximise supply, economic and job benefits for Queensland.

“Striking the right balance between gas production, and environmental, health and safety, and social performance is critical for the on-going growth of the gas sector.”

Submissions for the paper are open to the public until Monday, 19 December 2016.

To read a copy of the discussion paper and QLD Gas Supply and Demand Action Plan, [click here](#).

For more information on this story, please visit the [DNRM website](#).

Landholders to Benefit from New Mining Laws

AgForce Projects encourages landholders to be aware of new laws which took effect in September this year that reinstate community objection rights to mining projects, and allow landholders to ‘opt out’ of conduct and compensation agreements with resources companies.

AgForce resources spokesman Wayne Newton said the laws which took effect from Tuesday 27 September 2016, were part of a large suite of reforms developed over the past two years relating to how mining companies interact with landholders and the community.

“Coal seam gas and resource developments are an important issue for landholders and will continue to be into the future, so we need landholders to be as informed as possible in order to protect their properties, their businesses and their livelihoods,” he said.

“The changes which took effect on 27 September 2016 include a 50m buffer zone around key infrastructure such as principal stockyards, bores and artesian wells, dams and artificial water storages connected to a water supply; and a 200m buffer zone around permanent buildings including places of residence.”

“There is also a significant change in that landholders can now choose to sign an ‘opt out agreement’ rather than negotiate a conduct and compensation agreement (CCA) with a resource company.”

“While the State Government says this change is intended to ‘streamline the existing negotiation process’, AgForce strongly

encourages landholders considering an opt out agreement to ensure they are fully aware of the impact of these agreements on their rights and responsibilities.”

“Landholders need to be aware opt out agreements are not mandatory, must be accompanied by a special information form, be made in the prescribed form, are subject to a 10 day cooling off period and do not negate a company’s liability to compensate an eligible claimant.

AgForce Projects urges landholders to visit the Department of Natural Resources and Mines website to inform themselves about the changes and to contact the AgForce CSG Project team or the CSG Compliance Unit with any questions.

The new laws also require that opt out agreements and CCAs be noted on title (similar to an easement on property title) and broaden the powers of the Land Court in circumstances when a CCA cannot be negotiated.

The CSG & Mining Project will be running a series of workshops in early 2017 to inform landholders of these changes and their rights and responsibilities under this new framework.

There have also recently been amendments to the groundwater management framework for CSG and mining companies outlined later in this newsletter that 2017 workshops will also include.

To read more about the New Mining Law changes as well as the groundwater changes, visit [the DNRM website](#).

CSG is 'Fuel of the Future' says Queensland Resources Minister

Coal Seam Gas (CSG) is the “fuel of the future” according to Queensland’s resources minister, who believes it will sit perfectly alongside renewable energy sources like solar, hydro and wind.

Minister Anthony Lynham was speaking on the Gold Coast when Quilpie Shire Mayor Stuart Mackenzie – whose region has a thriving CSG industry – said he felt as though the gas was being left out of discussions about energy.

Mr Mackenzie said it was being lumped in with coal as a fossil fuel, and not included when there are talks about power generation.

Fairfax reports Dr Lynham described CSG as the “perfect co-existence model” alongside renewables.

“Coal Seam Gas is, no doubt, the fuel of the future and I laugh sometimes that when the gas industry first started up in Queensland, some of the conservation groups were promoting it as a clean, green fuel.

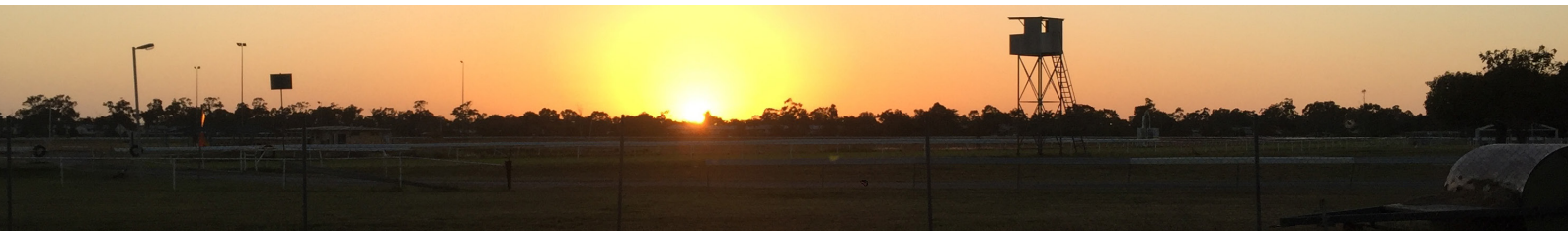
“Now, it’s the devil. It’s the devil reincarnated.”

Since the CSG and Mining Project started in 2011, the projects team have worked hard to ensure that landholders across Queensland are informed of their rights and responsibilities regarding resource developments on property.

Since this time the project has engaged with more than 5,600 landholders. The Project works to ensure that landholders have access to factual, balanced and practical information to ensure landholders can make informed decisions and negotiate the strongest conduct and compensation agreements.

While during this time the interactions between the resources industry and agriculture have greatly improved, there are still areas where improvements are needed and it is critical that landholders are supported through this process to ensure the best outcome for their property, business and family.

To read more about Dr Lynham’s response, [click here](#).



Queensland Parliament Passes New Laws to Protect Groundwater

All mines currently under development in Queensland that will have an impact on groundwater, will be required to obtain an “Associated Water Licence” under laws passed through Parliament in November.

Environment Minister Dr Steven Miles said the Environmental Protection (Underground Water Management) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2016 allowed the Palaszczuk Government to fulfil its election commitment to reverse previous laws which sought to deregulate the mining industry and give mining companies an “unlimited right to take.”

Dr Miles said all mining projects “already advanced” in their approvals process would be required to obtain an Associated Water Licence.

An amendment strengthening the expertise and knowledge between regulators dealing with water issues, ensures that the Director-General of DNRM consulted with the Director-General of EHP before making a decision on an Associated Water Licence.

“I’m pleased with this step towards linking the important work by my colleagues in NRM and my own agency,” he said.

“I will direct the Director-General of EHP that he is to form his opinion regarding groundwater impacts to be based on advice from an independent panel.”

“The panel will be formed by the Director-General of EHP and Director-General of DNRM as well as consisting of the Queensland Chief Scientist and three other members qualified in the law, public administration and natural resource matters.”

“Parliament also agreed that if a court has already delivered its judgement, after completing its exhaustive cross-examination of the groundwater impacts of a mine and determined there is no impediment to the mine proceeding, there is no need for the additional scrutiny these new laws enforce.”

Dr Miles said “future” mining projects will have the environmental impacts of their groundwater take initially

assessed under the Environmental Protection Act 1994 as part their environmental authority application.

He said stronger rights for farmers was another outcome of the new Bill.

“This will be achieved by improving the existing ‘Make Good’ obligations under the underground water management framework in the Water Act 2000.

“When they become law, the amendments we passed will ensure landholders are in a stronger negotiating position and are fairly compensated for impacts on their infrastructure and on the water resources they rely on,” Dr Miles said.

What does this mean for landholders?

AgForce’s response to these laws has been outlined below and we encourage landholders to make themselves aware of these changes; specifically in relation to Make Good Agreements.

Landholders have often expressed frustration at the restrictions during Make Good negotiations to engage professional groundwater advice to support their negotiations and make informed decisions regarding replacement supplies or possible impacts.

These new changes will provide landholders with the ability to seek independent advice and AgForce Projects will continue to work with Government representatives about how this will be implemented.

Any landholders that have been approached to negotiate a Make Good Agreement, following the approval of the Surat Basin Underground Water Impact Report, are encouraged to contact the CSG & Mining Team for information relating to these changes.

More information on these changes can be found on the [Department of Environment and Heritage Protection \(DEHP\)’s website](#).

New Water Laws Deliver Benefits For Landholders

New laws passed in State Parliament in late November will help take the pressure off landholders dealing with resources companies over underground water issues AgForce have said in response to these changes.

AgForce water spokesman Kim Bremner said the new environmental laws were a positive step towards improved groundwater management, but more work still needed to be done to provide more certainty about water allocation processes into the future.

“Farmers want secure and reliable access to their share of available water, and the opportunity for further sustainable development,” he said.

“AgForce’s view is that impacts on underground water supplies by resource companies should be avoided in the first instance, and that any unavoidable impacts are managed or ‘Made Good.’”

“We called for and supported a strengthening of the Make Good obligations on the resources sector, and it was pleasing to see those changes received the broad support of the Parliament.”

“The amendments 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.”

AgForce also advocated for landholders to have direct access to skilled, independent hydrogeological expertise to help them

understand the potential impacts of resource projects and to better negotiate effective ‘Make Good’ agreements.

“The changes passed are a positive step forward, but we would support the calls for a comprehensive review of Chapter 3 of the Water Act to deliver greater confidence for landholders that their water supplies will not be disrupted.”

Mr Bremner said balancing economic and environmental outcomes was vitally important, and decisions about water allocation and management needed to be based on robust, scientific evidence.

“It is important moving forward that proponents of potential irrigation projects, particularly in the north, have confidence there is a transparent and timely process for accessing sustainable amounts of unallocated water reserves. Delivering this confidence requires further work from the government,” he said.

“Water security for the whole community requires a fair and appropriate balance between all resource users, and the reforms that have been underway now for many years represent good progress towards more effective and efficient water planning and management.”

In 2017 the CSG & Mining Team will present an online webinar outlining in detail these legislative changes and what these mean for landholders. Please keep an eye on the AgForce Projects webpage for more information.

To read AgForce’s response to these amendments, [click here](#).



Adani's Carmichael Mine Granted Exemption From New Laws

As outlined earlier, the Queensland Government has introduced new groundwater laws on CSG and mining companies and strengthened the rights of landholders through the Make Good process.

For landholders in the Galilee Basin it is important to note that following amendments to the legislation, the Adani Carmichael mine has been exempt from the ability to undergo public challenges to obtaining a groundwater licence on the basis they've already undertaken an environmental impact statement (EIS) and been through two Land Court hearings; which according the Government demonstrates they have sufficiently met water licence requirements without requiring additional hearings.

As outlined these changes mean that companies which have already undergone scrutiny through an environmental impact

statement (EIS) and the Land Court would still require a water licence, but would not have to go through the public objection process. Meaning that Adani’s proposed Carmichael Mine in the Galilee Basin would be exempt from public objection.

A spokesman for Adani said the decision was recognition that the company had already passed all scientific and legal examinations to ensure rigorous measures were in place to manage water impacts at its Carmichael coal mine.

New Hope, the controlling company of the Acland mine at Oakey, will not be exempt from the new rules and will face more public scrutiny over their project.

Stud owner Frank Ashman, is the president of the Oakey Coal Action Alliance. Mr Ashman’s cattle stud is 8 kilometres from the New Acland Coal Mine, which will now have to apply for a water licence.

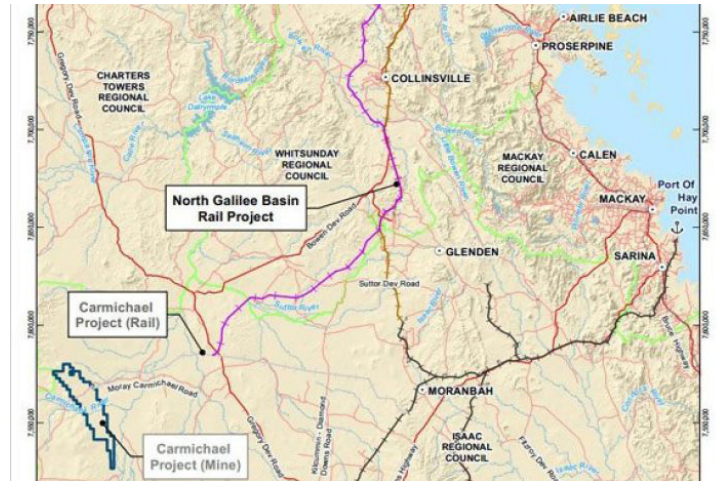
“What it enables to happen is that the groundwater assessments can go to another level of scrutiny,” he said.

AgForce has welcomed the amendments to the new laws, in particular the five-day cooling-off periods for Make Good agreements with resources companies wanting to access properties.

Water spokesman, Kim Bremner said the main priority for rural producers was protecting access to water and the cooling off periods would strengthen their bargaining position. “It allows farmers to have that second chance to consider any negotiations they have made so, you know, mistakes aren’t made.”

However, he said more was needed to be done to provide greater certainty about water allocation processes into the future.

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



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](#).

Company update

Queensland Government 'Steps Up' to Progress Adani Mine Project

The Palaszczuk Government has invoked special powers to progress the \$21.7 billion Carmichael coal and rail project in the Galilee Basin. The combined mine, rail and associated water infrastructure have all been declared critical infrastructure – the first time this has happened in seven years. The project’s special “prescribed project” status has been renewed and expanded to include its water infrastructure.

Adani has reached another major approval milestone, having now secured the approval of 31.5km of permanent rail line and the temporary construction of a 300-bed worker’s camp, announced by Dr Lynham earlier this month.

The rail section approved will form part of the 389 kilometre line from the mine in the Galilee Basin to the coal export Port of Abbot Point.

According to Dr Lynham, Adani has now secured all the necessary primary approvals for its mine, rail and port project as well as importantly, being granted the mining leases. Adani has indicated that they wish to start construction of the mine in late 2017.

What does this mean for landholders?

AgForce Projects encourages landholders with any questions regarding the legislation covering this mine or their rights in relation to compensation or groundwater impacts to contact the CSG & Mining team for support.

The team are also able to assist landholders to develop property maps/plans which are valuable tools to be used in negotiations, helping both the landholder and company representative to identify any impacts and develop plans to minimise these.

More on this story and to read the Minister’s response, [click here](#).



Glencore to Restart Production at Collinsville Mine

One of North Queensland’s oldest coal mines is restarting its production, with Glencore’s Collinsville mine set to hire up to 200 people at the open cut mine near Bowen.

The move comes after Glencore cut production this time last year, citing declining thermal coal prices as its reason for the decision. Coal has been mined at the Collinsville operation for almost 100 years.

Minister for Natural Resources Dr Anthony Lynham has welcomed Glencore’s advice that recruitment would focus on locals. “Our regional resource communities have been doing it tough and positive developments like this reverberate through the whole community and local businesses,” he said.

[Read the Queensland Government full media release here.](#)

Company update continued...

Origin Energy Releases 'Gate Mate' Initiative

Origin Energy has released their 'Gate Mate' initiative, encouraging CSG contractors and staff working on private properties to be mindful of leaving the gate as it was found as they move around properties, whether that gate be open or closed.

Although voluntary, Origin Energy is urging farmers engaged in CSG exploration or agreements to take part in the initiative by ordering the Gate Mate flip signs for gates within their property.

Property owners have been running into problems such as wandering livestock (resulting in additional mustering) after a series of CSG contractors would drive through a gated passing, then leave gates open not knowing whether the first to drive through had found or just left it open for passing.

Ronald Thompson, Origin Energy Manager Access Systems & Case Management describes the 'Gate Mate' initiative as the catalyst to maintaining effective long term relationships with property owners.

"From a landholder's perspective, leaving the gate open is such a simple thing, so what other things aren't we doing well? If we get this right, it's a good start to making sure we can actually have that long-term relationship".

The 'Gate Mate' also acts as a friendly reminder that to some a property is a workplace, but to landholders it also their home. As Origin Energy says, there are always two sides to every gate...

Find out more or order your Gate Mates on [Origin Energy's website](#).



Wandoan Carbon Capture Project

As many readers would be aware, recently there has been discussion in the Queensland Country Life about a trial project west of Wandoan that seeks to take carbon dioxide and inject into the Precipice Sandstone as a carbon capture and storage (CCS) project. To answer questions being raised, the CSG & Mining Project met with the company conducting the trial and have outlined some information below from the company.

What

Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS), also known as geosequestration, is the process by which carbon dioxide (CO₂), emitted through large industrial processes and electricity generating plants, is captured, compressed, and stored deep underground.

How

There are three steps to this process, which includes separating the CO₂ from other gasses at the industrial plant, which is then cleaned, compressed and transported to a geologically suitable site for storage, which in this case is on the Glencore-owned property 15km west of Wandoan. The gas is then injected into porous rock formations below earth's surface for permanent storage. Carbon Capture and Storage technology can capture and store CO₂ from coal and gas fired power stations.

Why

The project is being carried out by the Carbon Transport and Storage Company (CTSCo) with the purpose being to deliver the Surat Basin CCS Project on behalf of Government and Industry funders. The Project has been established to demonstrate the

technical viability, integration and safe operation of CCS in the Surat Basin.

The project still has another 6 years of modelling and technical studies before a trial can commence in 2022. The proposed trial is for 60,000 tonnes of liquid CO₂ to be injected into the precipice sandstone aquifer from a Glencore owned property 15km west of Wandoan for three consecutive years to determine the feasibility of the project.

The decision on moving to the next stage is also determined as to whether the acidified water (created as a result of dissolving the CO₂) escapes the boundaries of the property, in which case the project will be shut down. The project has been funded by Australian Coal Association Low Emissions Technologies, and has also received \$8.7 million from the [federal] Department of Industry, Innovation and Science.

Where

The Integrated Surat Basin Carbon Capture and Storage Project is located 15km from Wandoan in Queensland's Surat Basin.

For more information on the project visit the [CTSCo website](#):

Landholders with any questions or concerns regarding this project are encouraged to contact the CSG & Mining team. The team has been in preliminary discussions with CTSCo to look to hold a joint forum in early 2017 discussing the project and providing landholders with the ability to raise their concerns and questions directly. Please contact the CSG & Mining team by [email](#) or call (07) 3238 6048 or if you are interested in this event.

Company update continued...

Senex Energy Set to Commence Drilling at Cooper Basin

Earlier this month Australian oil and gas company Senex Energy Limited announced the commencement of its 2017 oil and gas drilling program which will comprise of multi-well oil exploration, appraisal and development opportunities, and a high impact unconventional gas exploration well. Located in the Cooper Basin, the campaign plans to drill to a depth of 3,600m with a potential lateral section of up to 1,500 metres.

Senex Managing Director and CEO Ian Davies said: "We are pleased to be back on the ground in the Cooper Basin, demonstrating our ability to execute work efficiently, safely and at the lowest cost."

"The Cooper Basin remains core to Senex's growth strategy and we will continue to deploy capital at a moderate rate on

high-value opportunities, targeting reserve replacement and production."

Senex has estimated the cost of the project to be around \$15 million.

What does this mean for landholders?

Landholders across the Cooper Basin with any questions or concerns regarding the legislative and technical obligations of CSG and petroleum/oil companies are encouraged to contact the CSG & Mining team for support on (07) 3238 6048 or [email](#). The Cooper Basin has been identified as containing potentially significant supplies of oil and gas, possibly a future supplier to export and domestic markets.

See the [Senex Media Release](#) for more details on the campaign.

More Noise Monitoring Ordered for QGC Operation Near Chinchilla

Queensland CSG operator QGC has been issued with an Environmental Protection Order (EPO) over allegations that noise levels are too high at a Western Downs project.

The Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (DEHP) issued the order to ensure noise obligations for the Kenya Gas project near Chinchilla are met. According to a department spokeswoman, QGC were given fines for two separate noise-related incidents between April and July of 2015, totalling almost \$23,000.

The Nothdurft family, who live near the plant which has been in operation for several years, said the noise they've endured has

prevented the family from sleeping properly for four years. The family commenced proceedings against QGC earlier this year, after 32 formal complaints to the State-Government regarding the matter.

Landholders who may be concerned about the indirect impacts of a resource development, such as a mine or compressor station or workers camp are encouraged to contact the CSG and Mining Project for support by [email](#) or call (07) 3238 6048.

[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 and how it works to provide greater knowledge and informed debate.

The CSG and Mining Project has been working with numerous research organisations including the University of Queensland Centre for CSG and CSIRO to bring this important and quality research to landholders as well as communities.

University of Queensland Update

UQ researchers have been investigating the impacts on farms and communities from CSG development, as you know. The results to date have interested and engaged landholders, community, government, and the CSG industry. Recently UQ partnered with AgForce Projects and CSIRO to present these findings at a forum in Chinchilla, as discussed further below.

There is ongoing UQ research assessing changes in communities, and a hope to extend the investigation of factors that help

small businesses in the Darling Downs to thrive - pending Commonwealth government funding. There is also a UQ student project developing a consistent and reliable way to measure dust deposition on fields.

Future research that benefits you? UQ would like to know your particular concerns. Get in touch by contacting our Mining and CSG team at csg@agforceprojects.org.au

CSIRO Update

New CSIRO research released in October has found that water produced from coal seam gas extraction, also known as 'produced water', can be safely re-injected and stored hundreds of metres underground.

Coal Seam Gas operations in the Surat Basin produces on average 70 gigalitres of water each year, around a seventh of the water held in Sydney Harbour. Concerns have been raised by the local community about the potential impacts to drinking and groundwater in the region from the CSG-water removal process.

CSIRO's new research demonstrates that injecting large volumes of treated CSG-produced water is unlikely to cause any harm to groundwater quality, however to achieve this the water must first be treated adequately, eliminating the risk of arsenic pollution to the groundwater.

The research included injection experiments, undertaken locally

in the Surat Basin at two locations - Reedy Creek and Condabri. The results were then analysed using computer modelling that simulates groundwater flow and quality.

What does this mean for landholders?

Since the expansion of the CSG industry, the impacts on groundwater supplies and the management/treatment of produced CSG water has often been at the forefront of the debate. AgForce has always maintained that where possible, CSG water should be treated to a high standard and returned to environmental systems or provided to landholders to benefit from.

Research such as this being conducted by CSIRO is important to ensure re-injecting treated CSG water can be done safely and with benefits provided to both the environment and agriculture.

To view a copy of CSIRO's full research report, [click here](#).

AgForce Projects, UQ and CSIRO Partner for a CSG & Mining Research Forum

In November, the CSG and Mining project partnered with The University of Queensland and CSIRO to develop and deliver a research forum, titled "Research Forum: Agriculture, Communities and Coal Seam Gas".

Held in Chinchilla and with over 80 attendees, the co-hosted forum was a great success, providing an opportunity for local landholders, community members and other key stakeholders to meet with researchers, discuss research findings and contribute views on options for further research into the impact of the CSG industry.

The day's research topics sparked great discussion amongst attendees and researchers, with landholders expressing their interest in further research into several key areas such as mental health and the CSG industry as well as developing cheap and effective bore monitoring and improved groundwater modelling.

AgForce Projects believes that quality research is an important tool in the debates surrounding CSG and mining development as well as the interactions and impacts on agriculture, communities and services. We are pleased to work with trusted institutions in UQ and CSIRO to present research outcomes to communities and landholders, providing the opportunity to discuss directly with industry leading researchers their experiences and provide feedback as well as directing future research topics.

With some questions remaining unanswered in the development of the CSG industry, AgForce Projects supports the continuation of important research being conducted by UQ and CSIRO to support informed decision making and give landholders research findings that they can use to improve interactions on property and communities can use to maximise benefits and minimise impacts.

Research update continued ...

AgForce Projects CSG project leader Daniel Phipps said it was important landholders stay as informed as possible about the CSG industry as it moves from the construction to production phase and that using research learnings should be key to making future decisions and minimising impacts moving forward.

“Some landholders may be under the impression they no longer need to remain informed about the industry or that the biggest push has been and gone,” Mr Phipps said.

“However with approximately 6,000 production wells in place and potentially 18,000-40,000 wells into the future yet to be drilled, we strongly encourage landholders to be aware of their rights and responsibilities, and to get involved in the research.”

AgForce Projects recognises that many landholders across CSG development areas are experiencing ‘consultation fatigue’ but still encourage landholders to participate in research where possible or to channel your experiences and feedback to the CSG &

Mining project to help put your thoughts/experiences across.

We believe that with the experiences gained through the project since 2011 and engaging with more than 5,600 landholders the agricultural industry is in a stronger position to continue to improve on the interactions between the resources sector and the industry. By using the quality research from organisations such as UQ, our industry can use this knowledge to maximise the benefits and minimise the impacts of the CSG industry as it moves from the construction to production phase.

For access to information from the day including research findings and outcomes, visit the [AgForce Projects CSG page](#) or contact the team at csg@agforceprojects.org.au

If you believe your region would benefit from a similar forum, please contact the CSG & Mining team on (07) 3238 6048 or [email](#) to discuss.



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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