

The Gateway process for coal and gas projects must exclude coal seam gas mining from current and future residential areas, including land zoned R5 'Large lot residential'.

Prime agricultural land must be protected and determinations made before the new Regulations must also be excluded.

The CSG exclusions must apply to projects that have already been approved. Mining and CSG companies that owned land identified as being part of a critical industry cluster must not be able to "opt-out" of the map before it is finalised,

The introduction of exclusion zones to protect surface water and groundwater resources from CSG and coal mining, and the 2km buffer around all land should be mandatory, possibly more depending on the nature of the industry and the environment.

Contradictions regarding the panel's power in determining applications must be eliminated. Strategic agricultural land must be defined independently by agricultural experts and according to best practice, so determinations are addressing the same criteria.

A rational scientific basis must be set for the rejection or acceptance of Gateway applications and no certificates should be issued until due process is complete.

Sincerely

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