

1 November 2013

Liverpool Plains NSW Australia Coal and Coal Seam Gas Exploration

Australia is lucky to possess the world's best black self mulching volcanic soils. It is uniquely located in a discrete basin on Sydney's doorstep on the Liverpool Plains. The only other countries to possess such soils are the Urals in Russia and the Pampas in Argentina.

Why would you consider risking its long term viability? History tells you what it is like to go short of food ... eg Europe in the last world war, Darwin in 1942, rations in Australia during WW2.

The Liverpool Plains has a proven track record of consistently producing high quality, high-yielding crops. The Valuer-General can attest to its unique quality, high fertility and commercial value in his rating assessments.

Large areas of the nearby Hunter Region are now a virtual moonscape. The particle pollution is extreme particularly on a windy day ... including areas right along the New England rail line where some 80 open unprotected carriages travel on a daily basis. The Hunter is a foretaste of the possible destruction of the Liverpool Plains.

I propose that the Liverpool Plains be excluded for coal and coal seam gas exploration. I do not believe issuing exploration licences nor current Gateway proposals will protect the Liverpool Plains. The cost/benefit on a triple bottom line basis is questionable. It is only short term compared to the long term benefit and certainty of continuous sustainable food production for Australia.

Please let this be a example of a Government with a long term vision for “where there is no vision the people perish”.

Glen Gulliver

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