

GAS WATCH 213.

Let Australia starve.

O'Farrell Government declares coal and methane gas more important than food and water.

Minister Hartcher promotes fossil fuel mining over agriculture.

Hartcher sells out to the mining industry.

**Let Australia be reliant on other countries to source its food.
Let mining companies reap their riches.**

That is what this SEPP is saying.

In a surprise media release Hartcher says that the “principal consideration” in determining whether to grant consent to a mining or coal seam gas development is the “significance of the resource.”?

There is nothing in the Draft Mining and Gas SEPP released yesterday by Minister Hartcher to require a mining proposal to even consider other industries near a “significant resource”. And “significant resource” isn't even defined.

Clearly the mining companies have been in the Government's ear, and the Government has succumbed to their pressure heralding the end of any security in agriculture.

Towns, villages and farms, under this SEPP, must play second fiddle to a “significant resource”. Agricultural industries, including the 200 year old wine industry and its associated tourist industry, face extinction.

This is the third SEPP supporting mining. The first two are still in Cabinet. The second one being the exclusion zone SEPP which, if passed without amendment, would protect residential areas, the wine industry and the thoroughbred breeding industry.

But any mention by the Government of the exclusion zone SEPP has ceased. It was supposed to have been L-A-W law by the end of March this year.

Where is the National Party? Why aren't our National Party members standing up to the Liberal members, and standing up to the fossil fuel miners, and protecting our agricultural industries.

Where is our local NP Member George Souris? He has made many promises that the winegrowing areas of Pokolbin and Broke will be protected from coal seam gas activity, as has Premier O'Farrell. But now he is quiet. This Government is no better than the last one, and is not keeping either its pre or post election promises.



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