

GAS WATCH 236.

1. AGL's plans to dispose of contaminated fracking water rejected by Hunter Water.

2. Santos today fined \$52,000 for failing to report CSG water spills.

1. **AGL**, in an attempt to find a way to dump their contaminated CSG waste fracking water, tried to have Hunter Water treat it at their waste water treatment works.

REJECTED by Hunter Water.

Australian Mining reports that Hunter Water has written to AGL saying that ***“Waste water from hydraulic fracturing (fracking) has the potential to adversely impact the waste water treatment process and therefore Hunter Water’s ability to meet its environment protection licence conditions.”***

Fracking waste water contains a range of chemicals including arsenic, mercury, lead, cadmium, as well as high salt levels.

AGL is spreading waste water on pasture at Gloucester. They must be immediately ordered to stop. If the water is too toxic for a waste treatment works, then it is too toxic for humans and should not be used on pasture which is grazed by cattle which end up in our food chain.

The CSG miners and the Government must realise by now that the CSG industry is unacceptable at any place where there are fresh water aquifers, where there is human habitation, or where food is grown.

2. **Santos have today been fined \$52,000 by the NSW Land and Environment Court for failing to report the spill of untreated water at its CSG drilling site in the Pilliga.**

Australian Mining reports that there were 16 spills or leaks of contaminated water from the series of about 30 test wells in the Pilliga region.

Coal Seam Methane Gas exploration and extraction should be ordered to cease immediately, and if a scientifically and environmentally acceptable method of disposing of toxic fracking waste water is proven, then the other environmental and social problems with the industry can be addressed. Safe disposal of toxic contaminated water is paramount.



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10th March, 2014. Contact: Graeme Gibson 0418 239359.