

GAS WATCH 262.

Cancer causing chemicals are dragged up from the coal seams by AGL.

OK with the EPA because AGL didn't inject them.

Seriously?

Carcinogenic chemicals (BTEX) constitute part of the fracking water brought up from coal seams 600 metres below the surface by AGL in their Gloucester CSG experiment.

These same BTEX chemicals were banned by the Government from being used to mix with fracking chemicals because of their danger to human and animal health.

But because AGL didn't inject the chemicals into their fracking operation, but rather brought them up from the coal seam with their fracking water, the EPA reckons it's OK to expose us to them.

And where are those cancer causing chemicals now. In an open dam waiting for someone to think up a way to dispose of them.

The CSG industry has no idea what to do with the fracking water they are bringing up from the coal seams, and it is millions and millions of litres.

AGL has tried:

- Dumping contaminated water on pasture - **FAILED.** Killed the pasture.
- Spraying contaminated water onto pasture - **FAILED.** EPA stopped the experiment as it was not sustainable.
- Sending the contaminated water to a treatment plant in Newcastle - **FAILED.** Wrongly dumped into Hunter Water Sewerage system.
- Sending the contaminated water to a treatment plant in Sydney - **FAILED.** Couldn't remove the BTEX chemicals.
- Keeping the water in a dam - **FAILED.** Danger of cancer causing chemicals affecting humans and animals. Danger of overflowing dam polluting surrounding pasture, waterways and aquifers.

EPA says that it will add new conditions to the monitoring and reporting of BTEX chemicals "to ensure appropriate handling and disposal at a licensed waste facility".

BUT no-one knows, least of all the CSG industry how to dispose of fracking water, the BTEX chemicals, the salt or the other numerous contaminants.

Licence conditions merely require the "appropriate" disposal of this BTEX contaminated fracking water. There is no proposal by AGL in its Review of Environmental Factors as to how this is to be done, other than it will be properly disposed of. That's not good enough. There should be a sound, scientifically founded disposal method, if that's at all possible.

CSG exploration should be immediately stopped until such time as there is a viable method of safely disposing of this fracking water, and only then the industry re-examined as to whether it is safe to continue.

Same old AGL.



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