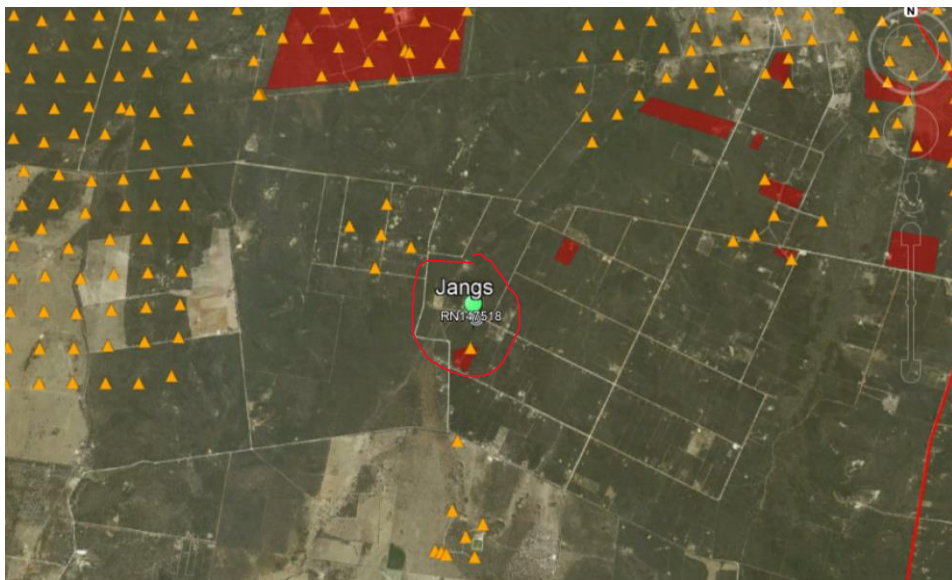


We are Greg and Sharon Jang, we had a beautiful home in Golden Glow Drive in Tara Residential Blocks. We worked hard to have a lovely house, yard, vegetable garden and animals. We have pigs, chooks, and Sharon is very proud of her pure bred dogs. We also have grown children who are giving us Grandchildren.

We would like this to be our testimony to the tribunal into the impact this industry has had on our human rights.

In 2010 we sunk a bore on our property. Up until December 2014 the family enjoyed a quiet semi self sufficient life on their quiet block. Suddenly in December 2014 our quiet life was interrupted by the noise and lights and dust associated with a drilling rig installing a well very close to our back fence line on the neighbouring property approximately 600m away. We complained to the company over the noise with no success and suffered weeks of interrupted sleep at a time when Greg was recovering from a heart related hospital visit.



This image shows the Jang property, their water bore, the gas well installed directly below their property and their property in relation to nearby CSG activity (yellow triangles)

Simultaneously to the QGC gas well being installed our bore which until this time had not troubled us, infact, was essential to our life on our property, started to produce a bad smell and bubbling like the water being drawn was boiling.



This image shows the water freshly drawn from the bore, in a bucket, bubbling with methane gas.

We were suspicious of the impact that the recently installed QGC gas well may have had on our bore. We had a friend with a gas monitor undertake testing. The gas monitor indicated strongly that there was definitely methane and hydrogen sulphide gas present in the head of the bore and in the tank that the water was pumped to. The boiling effect was methane gas bubbles in the water.

A complaint was sent on our behalf to the CSG Compliance Unit and further communication was undertaken with the DNRM in relation to the status of the bore.

We then experienced excruciating number of phone calls and communications between the DNRM, QGC and the health department in an attempt to have their bore assessed and an explanation for their sudden distressing circumstances which included:

- General unwellness
- Rashes
- Odour from bore water
- Vigorous bubbling of the bore water
- Dying vegetable plants
- Wasting pigs (stock needed to be euthanised)
- Dying chooks.

Our concerns were so great we sent our son and his partner who was pregnant away until we were able to get to the bottom of the problem.

In the time between making the complaint and getting the testing and final report from the DNRM, The CSG Compliance unit recommended if we were concerned about health that I should call the Health department. When I did this the health department told me to call the CSG Compliance unit. The person in the health department told me that the CSG Compliance unit needs to contact them, not members of the public.

Initially the DNRM attended the property to undertake initial testing of the bore as a result of the complaint, but they failed to do any testing for methane.

Finally after another test undertaken by OGIAT by the end of March 2015 OGIA had reported on their testing of the bore and DNRM had forwarded their response and the report to the family.

Their results indicated that:

- They did not see any way the CSG activities in the area could have contributed to the state of the bore;
- the quality of the water had not changed over the period of time between when the bore had been installed to this time;
- the only change in the bore was an increase of methane dissolved in the water and in the head space of the bore.
- The report was focused on the water quality and there was no discussion or recommendations regarding the increase in methane.
- There was no consideration given that this circumstance may lead to a make good situation as this was only directly relate to water level.

As far as the government was concerned that was the end of the matter. They did not support the family in any way with regard:

- to the impact that the sudden loss of the bore had for them.
- The making safe of the bore as it had high levels of methane present
- Even considering the startling link in timing between the CSG activity in the area and the appearance of the 'free' gas.

For the us it meant that the increase in methane made our only source of water was no longer useable and in fact potentially dangerous just in terms of gas being released from the water, particularly in the house (eg shower) without considering what other compounds was being carried by the gas into the water and then into the air. This was even described in the CSIRO Report three months before our complaint.

"Methane in water bores is a major concern in areas of coal seam gas (CSG) development. There are risks associated with ignition and asphyxiation in closed spaces around bores that create real concern. There are also other risks, such as gas lock in pumps, colour and odour impacts from water quality changes, toxicity due to other gases and build up of gases affecting the integrity of the bores.

Without access to our bore, we had to walk away from our home back to a previous life in Townsville.

Within the next 12 months, this same department issued a report that put our experience into a different light.

Firstly in September 2014 (3 months prior to the our complaint) the CSIRO had published a paper expressly for the CSG compliance unit and DNRM with regard to investigating methane in water bores (http://people.csiro.au/~media/People%20Finder/M/D/Dirk-Mallants/Methane%20gas%20in%20water%20bores_Final_Report_281014.ashx). This methodology was never used by the DNRM in investigating our complaint. This report was never referred to by the DNRM in their report to the us. Infact, the possibility that the gas had migrated to our bore due to CSG activities would not be accepted by the government in our case at all. It was as if this was impossible and this report had never been read by the department.

Secondly, in March 2016, a year to the date of the DRNM report to the us, where they insisted that since there was no change in water level or quality, there was no CSG influenced impact on the bore, and the presence of increased methane was not discussed, the DNRM published a report (<http://notatanycost.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/KCB-Gassy-Bore-Final-Report.pdf>) that stated:

..that free gas migrating from CSG development can occur in water bores that do not experience a water level decline from CSG development. Presence of free gas in a water bore is more than just nuisance. It directly affects the bore's capacity to provide water supply for the intended purpose...

This was a position that the department refused to even consider just 12 months previously, resulting in such distressing results for our family.

We have still not recovered and are still trying to find a way for our circumstances to be recognised.

We believe this demonstrates the complete lack of the government's ability to:

- Be prepared for or even aware of the possible impacts of the industry;
- Take any position other than the default industry supporting and family ignoring position that frustrates even the most determined individuals.
- Monitor and manage the legislative requirements of the industry;
- Protect the public and water resources;
- Competently investigate complaints by the public;
- Provide adequate information to those who are possibly impacted;
- Support those who have been impacted.