

8 October 2015

3625 Chinchilla Tara Rd, Wieambilla QLD 4413

Please accept this letter as an 'Official Complaint' to DERM; EHP; Ray Brown and John Cotter – Gasfields Commissioners; QLD Health; Communities; State and Federal Members and the QLD Premier.

I, John Jenkyn and my family live in the heart of the Western Downs Gasfields in Wieambilla, near Chinchilla. (Please see attached for short history on my family).

Our son, Aaron has quadriplegia Cerebral Palsy and acute noise sensitivity. He is now an adult and his care needs are incredibly high, including being unable to sit independently or feed himself. His needs required significant modification of the family home to care for him – including bathroom remodel and fitout.

QGC are very much aware of our family's situation.

This brings us to the most current atrocity perpetrated by the BG Group. BG Group have starting preparations for a drilling pad and installation of a drilling rig just 1200m from our family home.

During breakfast this morning (8/10/15 at 7.45am), I received the following text message from the Land and Liaison Officer Tony Heidrich:

"Hi John, QGC will be drilling a well in the local area on or around 10 October. QGC would like to offer you suitable accommodation in Chinchilla from 10 - 16 October. We can of course advise you should the drilling activity complete earlier than expected. Please let me know if you would like to take up this offer. Regards Tony"

It is completely unacceptable for Tony Heidrich and BG Group to take this approach of texting us with just 2 days notice of such impacts, let alone even considering it feasible that we are able to move our family to "suitable accommodation in Chinchilla", even IF such lodgings existed AND were available at such short notice.

This is a heinous failure to fulfil humanitarian and legal responsibilities to do no harm, and respect the needs of others. Unfortunately this is very typical of the CSG industry in general.

This drilling program must be suspended immediately and a transparent investigation undertaken into QGC and CSG in general and its immense and ongoing impacts upon my family. This should be taken as an example of what is happening right across the Western Downs. Immediate action must be taken by the Government to reinstate the rights of landholders to live with peaceful amenity or be fairly and adequately compensated to relocate their lives.

The text message received by me this morning represents 7 days (868 hours) of 24/7 noise; dust (containing goodness knows what contaminants); addition heavy vehicular movements; light; flaring whilst drilling etc. The noise alone will be intolerable to us, let alone the plethora of additional issues. We have suffered from CSG impacts and resultant health and lifestyle, property value diminution damages such as this for 10 years. This is so close as to now be intolerable.

I expect planned works to be suspended immediately and to hear from you as a matter of urgency.

Regards

John and Joanne Jenkyn

*"In 2005, John Jenkyn and his family moved to their 155 acre property near Tara on the Queensland Darling Downs for a quiet country life. This location was chosen by them as a nice, peaceful place to live and to care for their children, both of whom have cerebral palsy - with Aaron also having quadriplegia.*

*Shortly after moving onto the property, their lives were upturned and hopes for the future crushed. The 'Great Aussie Dream' became the 'Great Aussie Nightmare'.*

*Despite repeated requests, not once - ever, has anyone related to the gas industry (be it employee or politician) put it on the record that the industry will have NO impacts on John's family's health.*

*Their once peaceful 155 acre property is now situated amid toxic brine ponds, reverse osmosis plants, compressor stations, turbines, generators, wells, separators, pipelines, drill rigs, high and low point vents, FIFO man camps, wells, fracking, flares, effluent dumps and lay down storage yards – the list goes on.*

*John and his family exhibit symptoms of toxicity, including loss of smell and taste, headaches, burning eyes, breathlessness, and bleeding noses. Since the CSG onslaught, Johns wife, Jo has suffered asthma related heart attack and severe depression."*