

## NARRABRI GAS PROJECT TIMELINE

Late 1990s	Eastern Star Gas [ESG](chaired by John Anderson - former <a href="#">Deputy Prime Minister of Australia</a> and leader of the <a href="#">National Party</a> from 1999 to 2005) and contractors begin to explore the coal seams in the Bohena area of the Pilliga
Feb 2001	ESG lists on the ASX
2001-2010	ESG continues to explore and appraise the coal seams in the Pilliga
Nov 2011	Santos <a href="#">acquires</a> whole of ESG for \$731 million (79.1% of shares not owned by Santos with 100% valuation of ESG at \$924 million)
Nov 2011	Santos operated Gladstone LNG construction commences
Late 2011	Toxic waste water from ESG operations found to have leaked and created “dead zone” in Pilliga State Forest, one of numerous such leaks <a href="#">later documented</a> .
Mid 2012	2012 Gas Market review for the Queensland Department of Energy and Water states that Santos does not have sufficient certified 2P reserves for a 20 year, 2 train operation <sup>1</sup>
June 2013	Santos reports that is buying domestic gas for future LNG at prices in the range \$6-\$9/GJ <sup>2</sup>
Late 2013	Santos starts exploratory well-drilling in Pilliga Forest. Community opposition ramps up.
Jan 2014	Santos fined \$52,500 for 2011 toxic waste water spill, which was said to have cost \$17M at that point, although the remediation has been largely unsuccessful.
Feb 2014	Opposition to Narrabri Gas Project triggers large protests and arrests <a href="#">Santos signs MOU</a> with NSW Government - “Principles of Land Access” - to counteract opposition to CSG industry caused by Queensland experience.
Feb 2014	CEO David Knox interviewed by AFR Boss magazine: <i>“As Chief Executive and until recently chairman of the industry group APPEA, Knox has had to learn how to hone his message for a hostile audience. ‘This whole issue of explaining our story in public ..It has taken a lot longer and it has been a lot more challenging than we envisaged. Nobody has done coal seam gas to LNG at this scale before anywhere in the world. The fact is we had three LNG projects all going ahead in parallel..”</i> (AFR Boss Feb. 2014, 17)
May 2014	NSW Government closes parts of Pilliga Forest so gas wells can be drilled, resulting in non-violent direct action against Santos, and multiple arrests
Oct 2015	Gladstone ships first LNG tanker.
Dec 2015	Santos constructs Leewood Water Treatment Facility opposition to which results in 50+ arrests
Feb 2017	Santos lodges 12,000 page EIS for Narrabri Gas Project
May 2017	EIS receives 22,700 objections to NSW Planning, representing over 97% of submissions. Country Womens Association of NSW introduces policy supporting ban on CSG.
May 2018	Santos receives NSW government permission to produce gas from exploration wells, without obligation to pay royalties.

<sup>1</sup> 2012 Gas Market Review, Queensland Department of Energy and Water Supply, [https://www.cabinet.qld.gov.au/documents/2012/Sep/Gas Market Review/Attachments/Attachment-2012 Qld Gas Market Review.pdf](https://www.cabinet.qld.gov.au/documents/2012/Sep/Gas%20Market%20Review/Attachments/Attachment-2012%20Qld%20Gas%20Market%20Review.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> Chambers M, “Gas Price Soars as Santos signs domestic deal”, The Australian, 14 June 2013

Mar 2020	NSW Planning Minister Rob Stokes refers NGP to the Independent Planning Commission but no Assessment Report is yet provided and no date for the hearing has been set. Mechanism for submitting opposing material to the Project is undefined.
Mar 2020	Petroleum (Onshore) Amendment (Coal Seam Gas Moratorium) Bill 2019 - Private Members Bill to legislate a moratorium on CSG which was to be debated in the NSW Legislative Council on 25 <sup>th</sup> March, now deferred indefinitely due to coronavirus pandemic