To: **the Honourable the Speaker & Members of the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales. This petition of citizens of New South Wales request the House:**

Ban all coal seam gas (CSG) prospecting and mining in New South Wales drinking water catchment areas

We draw attention to the **pre-election promise** made by then Opposition Leader **Barry O'Farrell**: *"The next Liberal/National Government will ensure that mining cannot occur... in any water catchment area, and will ensure that mining leases and mining exploration permits reflect that common sense; no ifs, no buts, a guarantee."* We support the Premier's unambiguous commitment and we petition the NSW Government to keep this promise. CSG mining poses substantial and unacceptable risks to water catchment areas, as it:

- requires clearing and degradation of large areas land to create roads, drill wells, lay pipelines and establish pumping, storage and other facilities;
- drills wells that connect the land surface with coal seams, passing through any present ground water systems. All wells are made of materials that will degrade over time;
- can involve fracking, which uses and pollutes large quantities of fresh water that can escape into the surrounding environment;
- changes underground stress fields which can lead to loss of surface water, increased fugitive methane and subsidence or other seismic events;
- draws water to the surface that is saline, contains methane and can contain toxic and radioactive compounds and heavy metals;
- depletes groundwater; and
- poses fire risks which threaten water quality.

Name	**Email /Address**	**Phone**	**Signature**	**Add to contact list (**Y/N)