



Coal Seam Gas:
What's it got to do
with me?

We recognise the benefits of developing our energy resources....

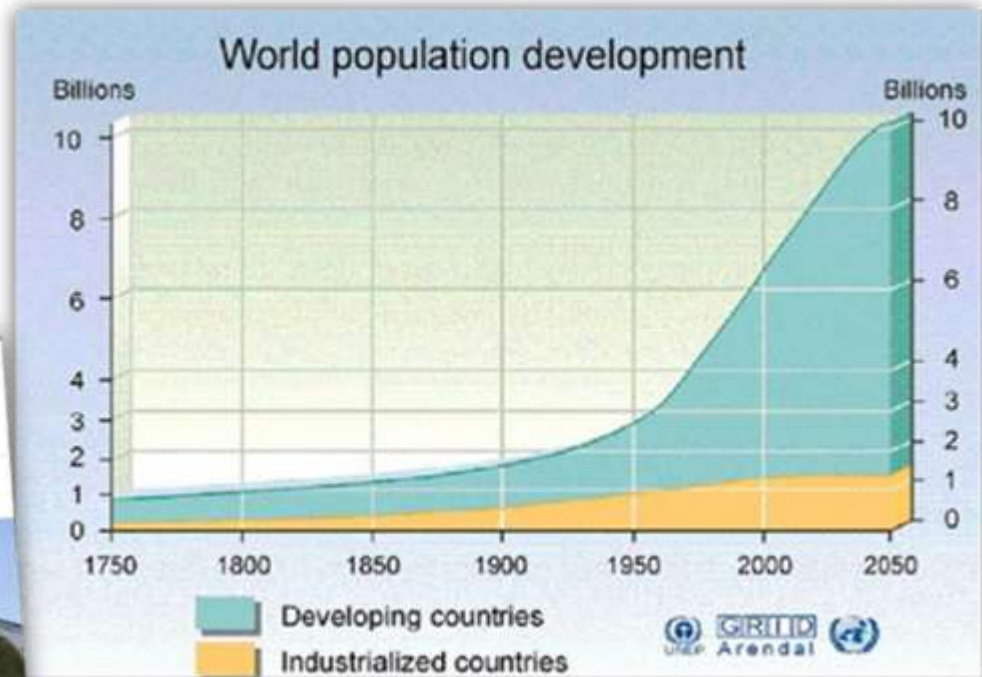
- Jobs
- Broader economic base for regional communities
- Export income
- Improved infrastructure

but we must protect our agricultural resources.



Why do we need to worry?

- Sustainability of our water and land
- Queensland's goal to double agricultural production by 2040 (LNP Policy)
- World food crisis
- Regional towns rely on ground water

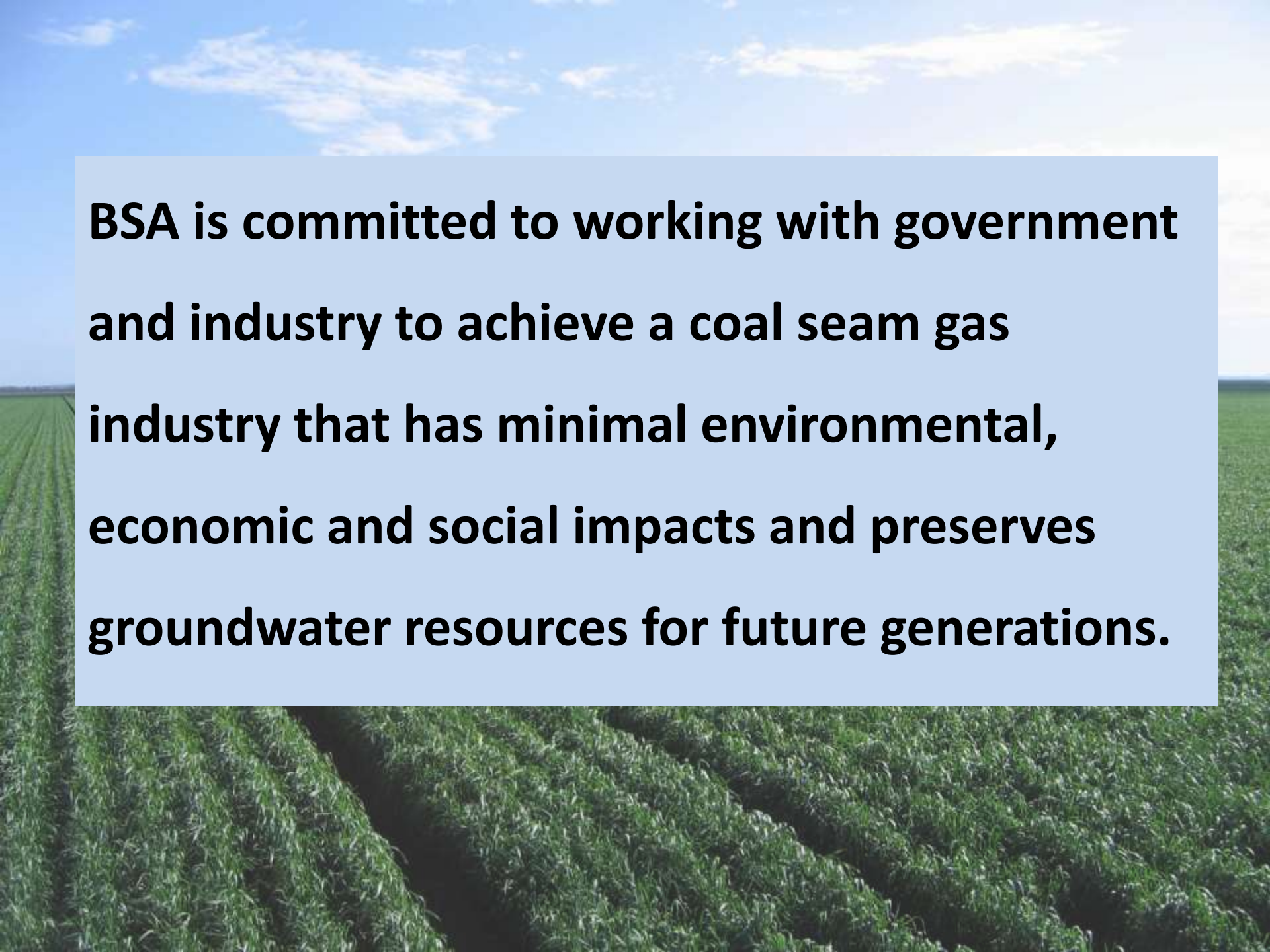


Why BSA formed

In early 2010, a group of concerned local business people, community members, farmers and agricultural consultants, formed the Basin Sustainability Alliance.

They were concerned about the unrestrained and rapid CSG development occurring and worried that “protest groups” were being seen as radical and therefore were not getting the ear of Government despite having legitimate concerns.





BSA is committed to working with government and industry to achieve a coal seam gas industry that has minimal environmental, economic and social impacts and preserves groundwater resources for future generations.

BSA vision

safeguard

**farmlands
for future
generations**



BSA vision

preserve

**water resources
for our children
& grandchildren**



BSA vision

protect

**our future for
growing food
and fibre**



BSA vision

achieve

**a sustainable
future for all
Queenslanders**



BSA has made a difference... but we still have significant concerns.

CSG linked to river bubbles, expert says

May 31, 2012

Research from the USA shows methane contamination of groundwater can occur up to one kilometre from gas production sites (depending on geology and the type of CSG mining process), and yet full-scale development water quality have not been carried out at CSG mine sites in Australia.

Coal gas stream blaze still alight at Daandie, west of Dalby

A METHANE fire in a hole on coal seam gas mining land is still burning. How the methane ignited is still unknown.

6 July, 2012 11:16AM AEST

Coal seam gas blamed for health problems

By Samantha Turnbull and Joanne Shoebridge

Queensland doctors have reported seeing patients with health problems believed to be related to coal seam gas activities

CSG rubbing salt into wounds

TROY ROWLING 16 Oct. 2012 03:00 AM

THE coal seam gas (CSG) industry estimates each gas company will produce one Olympic-sized pool of brine that will be need to be processed every day during the decades long resource sector activity across the Surat Basin.

Fatal to farmland, the issue of where the brine will be transported for processing into salt and where the market is for such vast volumes of the by-product have been a major point of contention between the gas

Rose Brennan, Kieran
Rooney
The Courier-Mail
August 20, 2012
4:14PM

There's been a mixed reaction to the Queensland Water Commission's report into the impact of coal seam gas on underground water.

Yesterday the first definitive analysis of how the gas mining boom is affecting water in the Surat Basin was released in Toowoomba.


The new report suggests more than 500 water bores on properties across the Queensland's southern inland will be affected by the coal seam gas industry.

The document also makes clear the obligations of coal seam gas companies if bores reach trigger levels

It now comes down to the question of whether or not the impact is acceptable and it's that point that has again divided those involved with the CSG industry.

A close-up photograph showing a person's hand holding a blue flexible pipe. The pipe is submerged in a body of water, and numerous small, light-colored bubbles are rising from the end of the pipe, indicating gas being released into the water.

**Gas bubbling in the
Condamine River, May 2012**

A photograph of a large, intense fire burning in a dark, rocky or earthen pit. The fire is bright white and yellow at its base, with flames reaching upwards, surrounded by dark, smoky or sooty material.

**Gas fire at
Daandine,
August 2012**

A photograph of a massive industrial explosion. A thick, vertical plume of white smoke and dust rises high into the sky from a site. In the foreground, a white semi-truck and other industrial equipment are visible on a grassy field, partially obscured by the base of the explosion.

**Coal seam gas well explosion
near Dalby, May 2011**



We have a **once-in-a-life-time** opportunity to ensure the largest ever natural resource development in NSW and Queensland is done sustainably.

**If your business or customers are
connected to agriculture and farming
or if your business or your customers
rely on underground water, then**

...this industry will impact you.

BSA Concerns: Land Surface Impacts



BSA Concerns: Land Surface Impacts

- Lose 5 to 10% of productive land
- Interference to farming operations
- Disposal of salt

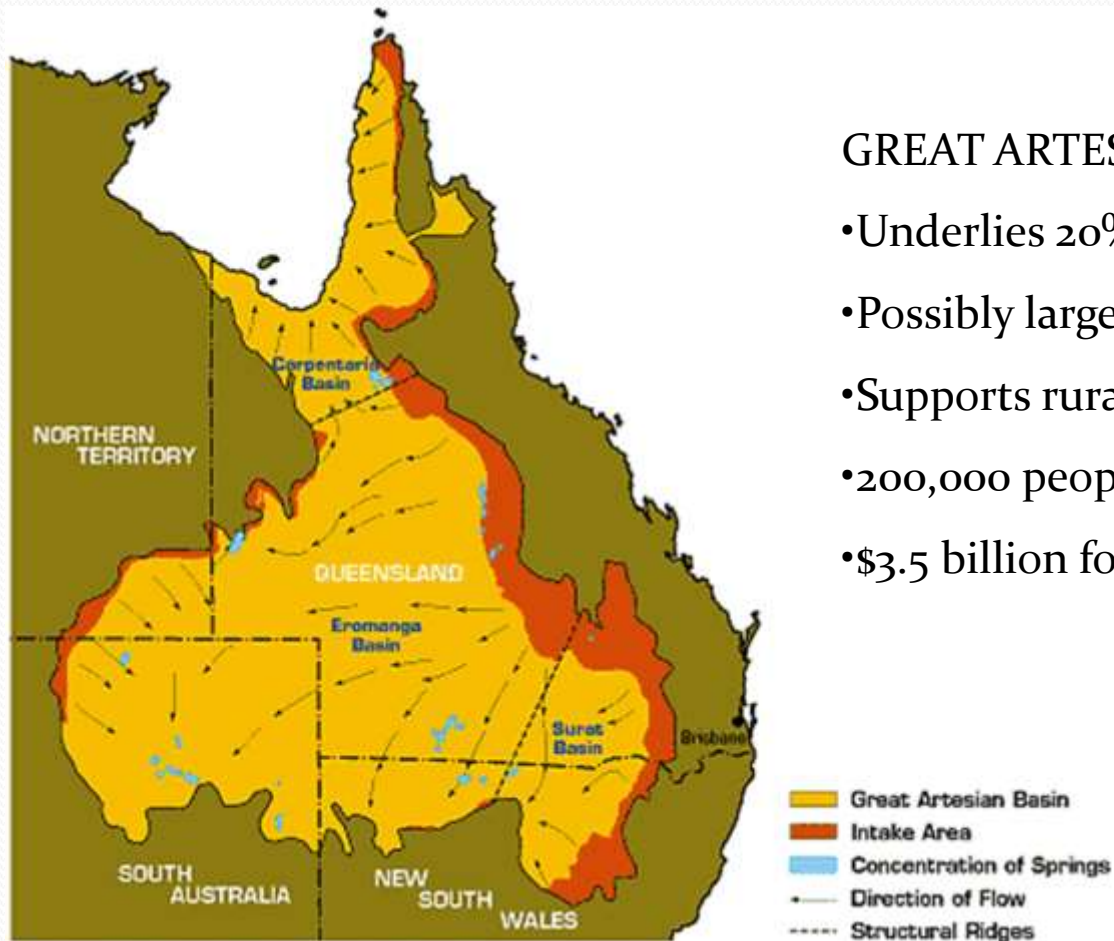
Salt to be generated up to 31 million tonnes, enough to fill the Melbourne Cricket Ground 15 times. QGC has been given permission to build a salt pit the size of four MCGs.

- Impact of overland flow
- Depth of pipelines

Restricts farm machinery operation



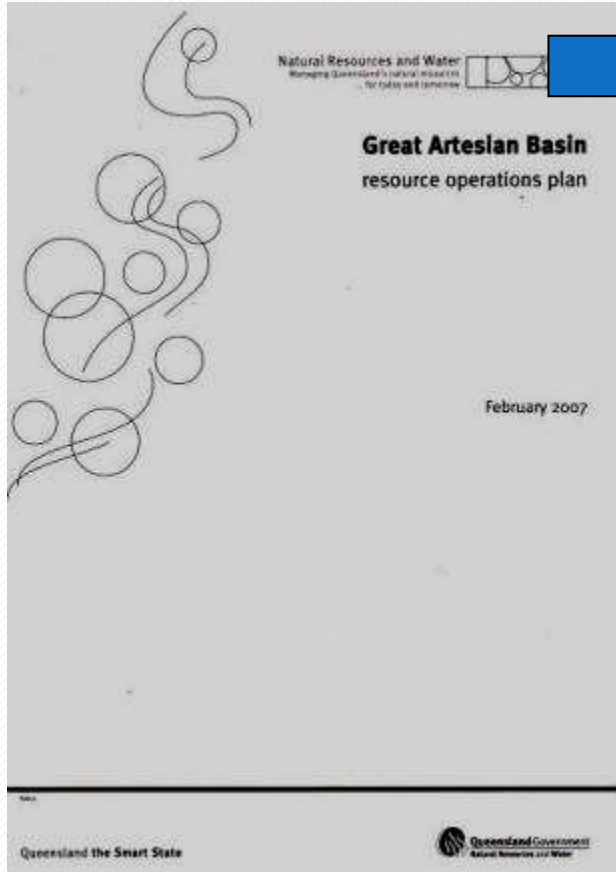
BSA Concerns: Groundwater impacts



GREAT ARTESIAN BASIN:

- Underlies 20% of Australia
- Possibly largest in the world
- Supports rural towns
- 200,000 people
- \$3.5 billion food & fibre production

BSA Concerns: Groundwater impacts



- Aiming for long term sustainability
- 23,000ml – general reserve
- 10,000ml – projects of state or regional significance

Why are CSG activities exempt from the plan?

350,000 ML per year for 25 – 50 years
from an already fully allocated system

**CSG WATER MUST BE TREATED
AS A RESOURCE
NOT A WASTE PRODUCT**

BSA Concerns: Groundwater impacts

- Trigger thresholds should be for water quality not just quantity.
- Where will “make-good” water come from?
 - Moratoriums prevent surface water systems
 - CSG Companies have not purchased water licences
 - RO water available only for first 20yrs
- Adaptive Management – if impacts are too great can activities be stopped?
- Dewatering – opening up gas pathways
- Interconnection

We know there will be draw-downs as a result of CSG..
The full extent of impact is still unknown...

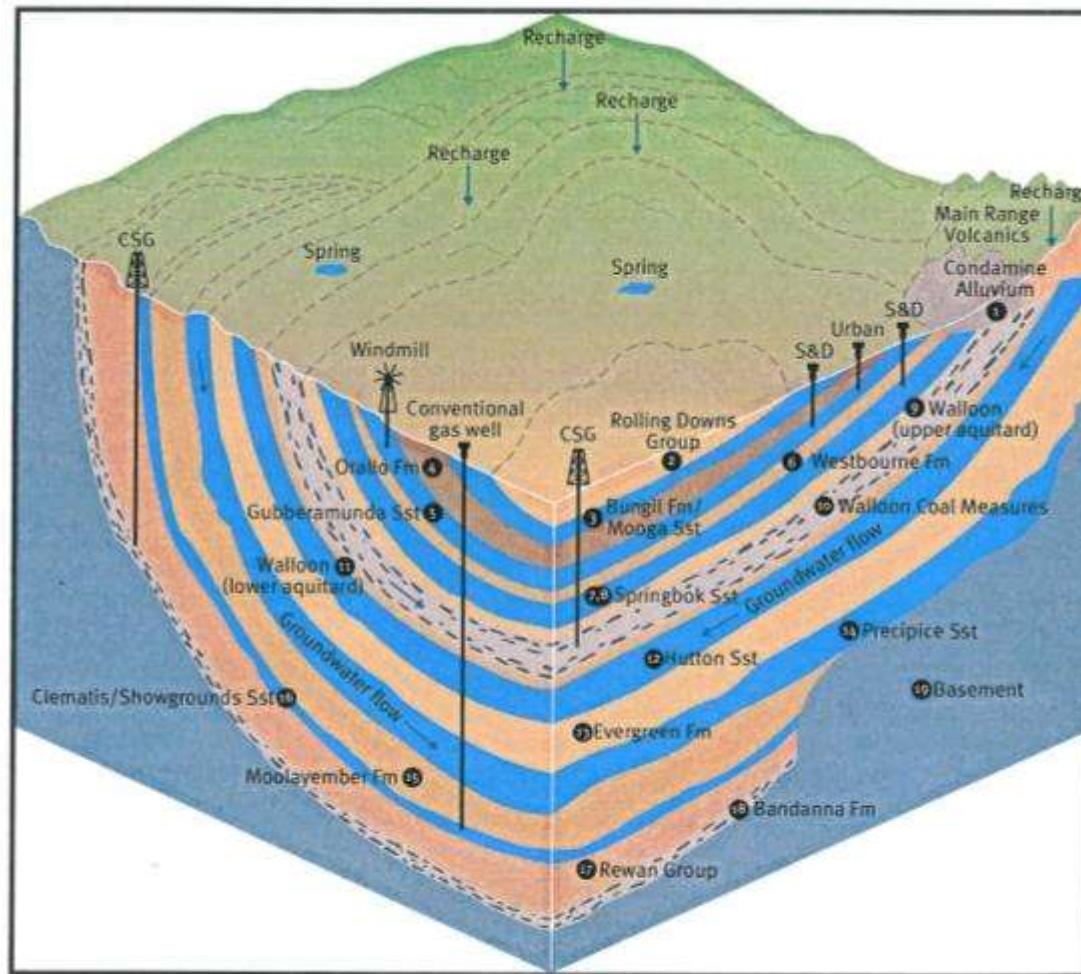
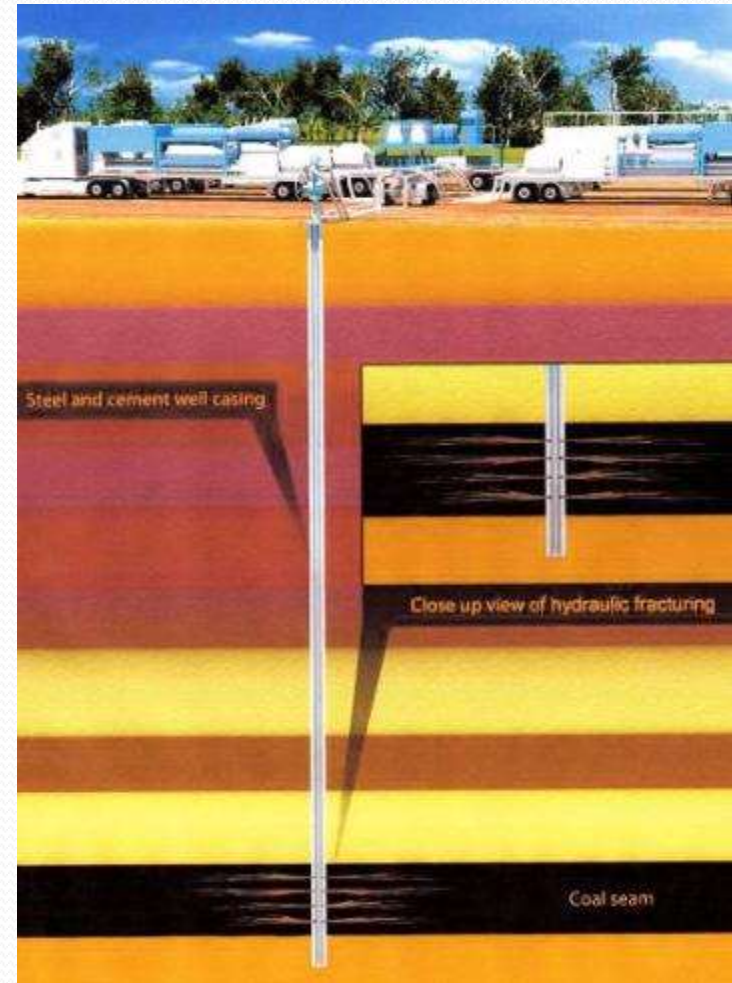


Figure 6-3 Conceptual Model of the Groundwater Systems in the Surat Cumulative Management Area

BSA Concerns: Environmental Safety

- No legally enforceable well standards
- Concern about fracking and other well stimulation methods (chemicals, contamination and impact on aquifers)



BSA Concerns: Landholder Rights

- Legal framework – power imbalance
- Threat of Land Court including costs
- Lack of clear information and support for landholders

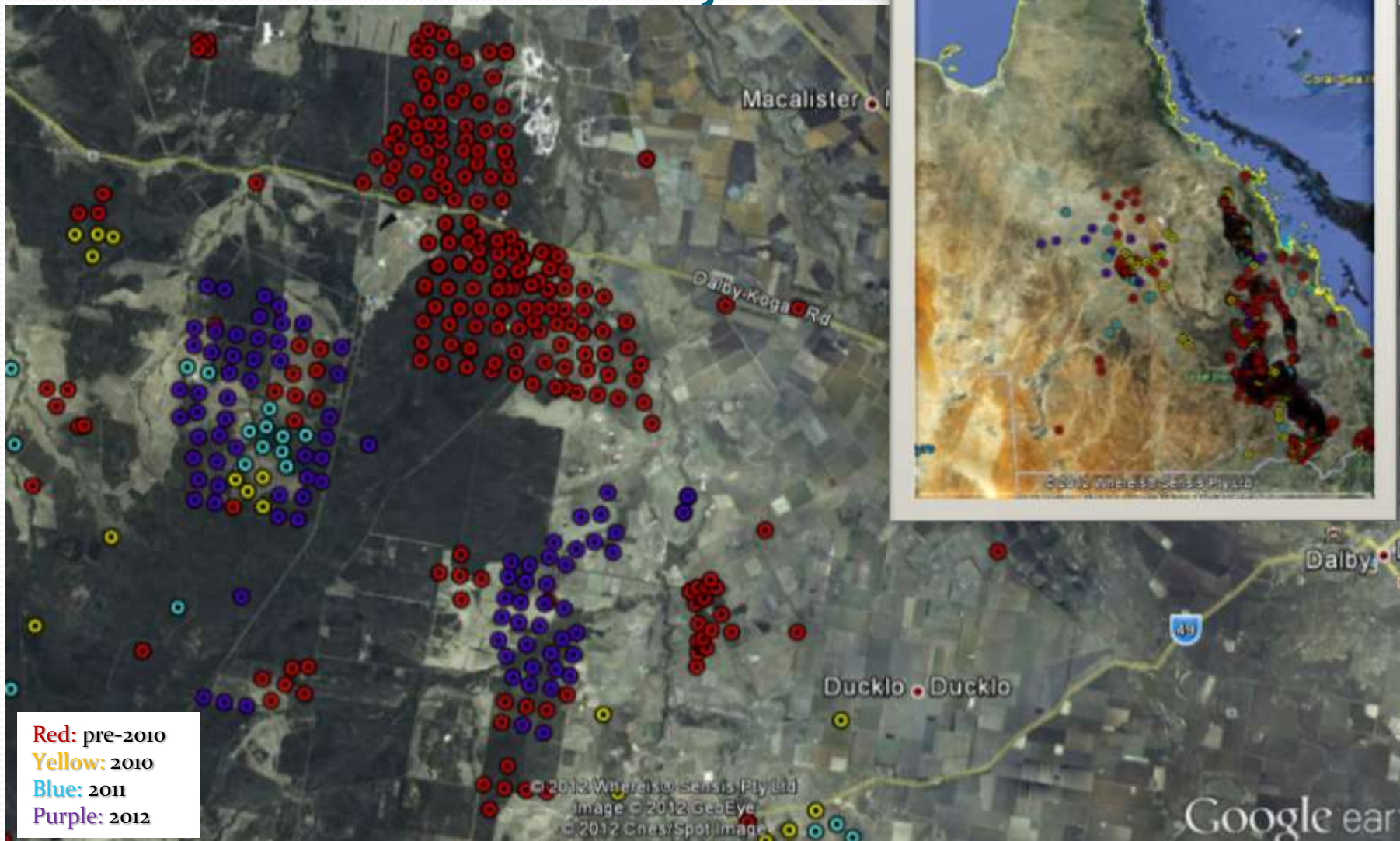
Section 804 of the Petroleum and Gas Act states:

***“A person who carries out an authorised activity for a petroleum authority must carry out the activity in a way that does not unreasonably interfere with anyone else carrying out a lawful activity”.*”**

BSA Concerns: Social and other impacts

- Uncertainty for farming future (expansion and succession planning put on hold)
- Noise, dust, light pollution
- Pressure on local roads and other local infrastructure
- Loss of privacy/lifestyle
- Pressure on affordable housing
- CSG jobs creating a skill shortage for local employers
- Stress on landholders understanding rights and legislation
- Uncertainty around health concerns
- Impact on property values
- “Buying” social license , misleading advertising (eg. half a netball court)
- Government conflict of interest – royalties
- Definition of coexistence?

Current wells near Dalby



BSA can supply file for interactive viewing of CSG wells using Google Earth

If your business or customers are
connected agriculture and farming
or if your business or your customers
rely on underground water, then

...this industry will impact you.

Without BSA important issues may get lost... here's some of the things we've done...

- Put landholder concerns on the table
- Advocacy for more groundwater research
- Banning Btex chemicals in fracking
- Trigger thresholds
- Risk assessment for fracking
- Changes in WOLA (water) bill
- Changes to fracking/well simulation standards in NROLA bill
- Banning of evaporation ponds
- Lengthened time periods for submissions
- Pressure for more on the ground water commission officers, pressure for an LNG enforcement unit
- Better notification for landholders (not just public notice)
- Called for baseline monitoring – BSA one of the drivers for Under Water Management Impact Report.
- Keep consequential loss in the legislation
- Better treatment of landholders by CSG companies
- Improving information flow to landholders – through seminars, press statements, website, enews
- Feed into Agforce and Surat Basin leaders groups
- Highlight important issues in Underground Water Impact Management Report
- Review of “Occupier” definition in legislation

and more....

Why do we need help?

- BSA is not-for-profit, driven by volunteers who are concerned about sustainability
- We receive no government funding
- However, Government and industry have told us they look to BSA for advice, ideas, feedback.

"The BSA has played a significant role in the discussions on the co-existence of the energy sector with agriculture. They have voiced a balanced view in relation to underground water aquifers and the protection of Strategic Cropping Land in which they have contributed submissions to assist not only our Government's direction and policy but also both the Water and GasFields Commission. BSA not only assists their members but also provides strong stewardship in our region and for our future."

Ray Brown, Mayor,
Western Downs Regional Council

"The Basin Sustainability Alliance has been a leading landholder organisation that has informed and shaped policy considerations on Coal Seam Gas for the past 2-3 years."

The BSA made significant contributions to policy development in relation to CSG Water, Land Access, Industry-Community-and Government Engagement on the development of CSG industry to name a few of the big ticket issues. I have the utmost respect and admiration for the strategic guidance, dedication, frank advice and excellent assistance provided by the BSA executive leadership committee"

Bill Date, Director, Coal Seam Gas Engagement (Surat Basin),
Queensland Government

How can you help?

- Become an individual member
- Sign your business up to be a sponsor
- Encourage others to become members
- Like us on Facebook
- Check out www.notatanycost.com.au
- Sign up for our enewsletter

Income from membership covers BSA secretariat and operational costs. Additional funding from sponsors will help BSA to engage consultants and researchers as required for important special projects. We have significant research gaps that need to be highlighted in a credible well-informed manner.

Sponsorship Packages

- **Platinum** - in excess of \$10,000 – added to enews list, invitation to BSA events, certificate to display in business (if they wish), offered a chance to speaking at events, acknowledge on website, mention in annual report, business profile featured in enews at least once per year, logo included in enews template.
- **Gold:** \$5001-\$10,000 - added to enews list, invitation to BSA events, acknowledge on website, mention in annual report, business profile featured in enews at least once per year, business name mentioned in enews template.
- **Silver:** \$1001 – \$5000 – added to enews list, invitation to BSA events, acknowledge on website, mention in annual report

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