

# DID YOU KNOW COAL SEAM GAS DRILLING COULD BEGIN NEAR YOU?

This hatched area on the map is the area in which AGL has a licence to explore for coal seam gas. Do you live in this area?\*

The O'Farrell government has "green lighted" state-wide CSG exploration, production, and 'fracking'.

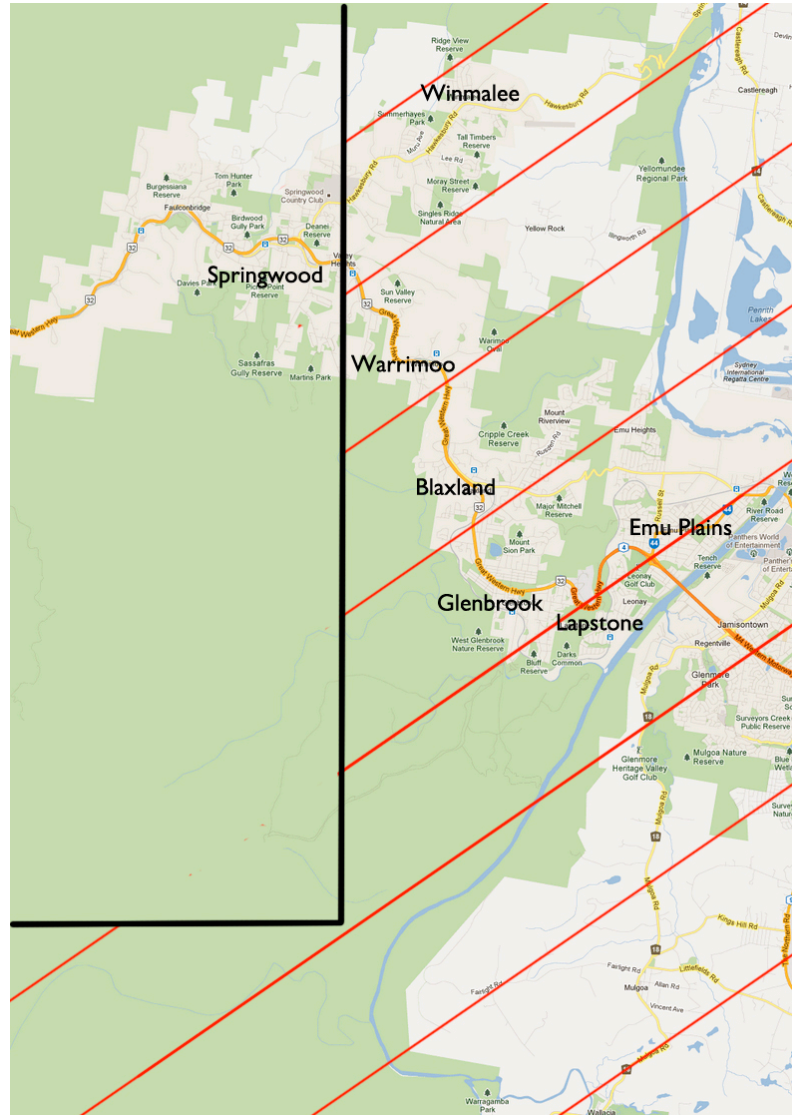
Not one square inch of NSW has been guaranteed protection. Precious environmentally sensitive and agricultural land is potentially available for mining. Even densely populated residential areas in the Sydney basin are fair game.

## HOW IS THE GAS MINED?

The gas, mainly methane, is extracted from coal seams deep underground. After extraction it is processed as liquified natural gas, mainly for export.

During extraction a portable rig drills down to the coal seam, often passing through aquifers used for drinking water and irrigation.

Sometimes hydraulic fracturing, called 'fracking', is used to release the gas from the coal seam. This involves pumping water and toxic chemicals under high pressure into the coal seam.



\* Map reflects information on Department of Trade and Investment, Resources and Energy Division's MinView as at 2 October 2012.

## WHAT ARE THE POTENTIAL PROBLEMS?

The risks from drilling include:

1. the aquifers, which have taken millions of years to form, can be contaminated. This can happen whether fracking takes place or not.
2. the gas is brought to the surface mixed with large amounts of salty water, which can contain toxic chemicals. It has to go somewhere!
3. 'fugitive emissions' of methane can escape into the atmosphere, causing sickness to people and animals, and contributing to global warming.

## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

The government must be told that it is NOT OK to:

- ★ Renew 22 expired exploration licences against community wishes.
- ★ Renew AGL's exploration licence over Western Sydney and the Lower Blue Mountains.
- ★ Remove the ban on 'fracking'.
- ★ Drill in our water catchments.



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