

From: WALL Kate [Kate.Wall@ehp.qld.gov.au]
Sent: Friday, 21 November 2014 8:23 AM
To: MCDONAGH Keara
Subject: Fwd: Alert - Gassy landholder water bore (20km South of Chinchilla)
Attachments: image001.png; image002.png

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

FYI

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "CONNOR Andrew" <Andrew.Connor@ehp.qld.gov.au>
To: "WALL Kate" <Kate.Wall@ehp.qld.gov.au>
Subject: Fwd: Alert - Gassy landholder water bore (20km South of Chinchilla)

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "CONNOR Andrew" <Andrew.Connor@ehp.qld.gov.au<<mailto:Andrew.Connor@ehp.qld.gov.au>>>
To: "LENZ Anne" <anne.lenz@ehp.qld.gov.au<<mailto:anne.lenz@ehp.qld.gov.au>>>, "VENZ Mark" <Mark.Venz@ehp.qld.gov.au<<mailto:Mark.Venz@ehp.qld.gov.au>>>, "ELLWOOD Dean" <Dean.Ellwood@ehp.qld.gov.au<<mailto:Dean.Ellwood@ehp.qld.gov.au>>>, "HORTON Sarah" <Sarah.Horton@ehp.qld.gov.au<<mailto:Sarah.Horton@ehp.qld.gov.au>>>
Cc: "HERTSLET Bryce" <Bryce.Hertslet@ehp.qld.gov.au<<mailto:Bryce.Hertslet@ehp.qld.gov.au>>>
Subject: Fwd: Alert - Gassy landholder water bore (20km South of Chinchilla)

FYI

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "DATE Bill" <Bill.Date@dnrm.qld.gov.au<<mailto:Bill.Date@dnrm.qld.gov.au>><<mailto:Bill.Date@dnrm.qld.gov.au>>>
To: "CONNOR Andrew" <Andrew.Connor@ehp.qld.gov.au<<mailto:Andrew.Connor@ehp.qld.gov.au>><<mailto:Andrew.Connor@ehp.qld.gov.au>>>
Cc: "HERTSLET Bryce" <Bryce.Hertslet@ehp.qld.gov.au<<mailto:Bryce.Hertslet@ehp.qld.gov.au>><<mailto:Bryce.Hertslet@ehp.qld.gov.au>>>
Subject: Fwd: Alert - Gassy landholder water bore (20km South of Chinchilla)

Andrew, FYI mate

Bill Date
Executive Director | CSG Compliance Unit
Department of Natural Resources and Mines

T: 3199 7250 | E: Bill.Date@dnrm.qld.gov.au<<mailto:Bill.Date@dnrm.qld.gov.au>><<mailto:Bill.Date@dnrm.qld.gov.au>><<mailto:Bill.Date@dnrm.qld.gov.au>>>

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From: "DATE Bill" <Bill.Date@dnrm.qld.gov.au<<mailto:Bill.Date@dnrm.qld.gov.au>><<mailto:Bill.Date@dnrm.qld.gov.au>><<mailto:Bill.Date@dnrm.qld.gov.au>>>
To: "LITTLE Scott (DNRM)" <Scott.Little@dnrm.qld.gov.au<<mailto:Scott.Little@dnrm.qld.gov.au>><<mailto:Scott.Little@dnrm.qld.gov.au>><<mailto:Scott.Little@dnrm.qld.gov.au>>>, "HUGHES John" <John.Hughes@dnrm.qld.gov.au<<mailto:John.Hughes@dnrm.qld.gov.au>><<mailto:John.Hughes@dnrm.qld.gov.au>><<mailto:John.Hughes@dnrm.qld.gov.au>>>
Cc: "FREE David" <David.Free@dnrm.qld.gov.au<<mailto:David.Free@dnrm.qld.gov.au>><<mailto:David.Free@dnrm.qld.gov.au>><<mailto:David.Free@dnrm.qld.gov.au>>>, "MATHESON Stephen (Mines)" <Stephen.Matheson@dnrm.qld.gov.au<<mailto:Stephen.Matheson@dnrm.qld.gov.au>><<mailto:Stephen.Matheson@dnrm.qld.gov.au>><<mailto:Stephen.Matheson@dnrm.qld.gov.au>>>, "SHARP David" <David.Sharp@dnrm.qld.gov.au<<mailto:David.Sharp@dnrm.qld.gov.au>><<mailto:David.Sharp@dnrm.qld.gov.au>><<mailto:David.Sharp@dnrm.qld.gov.au>>>, "LYNCH Paul" <Paul.Lynch@dnrm.qld.gov.au<<mailto:Paul.Lynch@dnrm.qld.gov.au>><<mailto:Paul.Lynch@dnrm.qld.gov.au>><<mailto:Paul.Lynch@dnrm.qld.gov.au>>>
Subject: Re: Alert - Gassy landholder water bore (20km South of Chinchilla)

CSGCU (John Hughes) to coordinate with Landholder.

Groundwater Investigation Assessment Team to respond to site in the morning. Chief Stephen Matheson will arrange for Inspectorate response.

John Hughes please coordinate response effort for same time on site.

Paul , for your info

Bill Date
Executive Director | CSG Compliance Unit
Department of Natural Resources and Mines

T: 3199 7250 | E: Bill.Date@dnrm.qld.gov.au<<mailto:Bill.Date@dnrm.qld.gov.au>><<mailto:Bill.Date@dnrm.qld.gov.au>><<mailto:Bill.Date@dnrm.qld.gov.au>><<mailto:Bill.Date@dnrm.qld.gov.au>>

On 20 Nov 2014, at 18:19, "LITTLE Scott (DNRM)"

<Scott.Little@dnrm.qld.gov.au<<mailto:Scott.Little@dnrm.qld.gov.au>><<mailto:Scott.Little@dnrm.qld.gov.au>><<mailto:Scott.Little@dnrm.qld.gov.au>><<mailto:Scott.Little@dnrm.qld.gov.au>>> wrote:

Bill

BLUF: Landholder safety concerns due to gassy bore, 20km South of Chinchilla

Landholder: s.49 - Personal Information

Location: s.49 - Personal Information 20km south of Chinchilla s.49 - Personal Information

Tenure: PL253 – Arrow Energy

s.49 - Personal Information

- Currently there is a 2 metre high spray in the air. The water is salty/brackish with high pH
- Landholder advised that Arrow employees are not allowed to go “near” the bore
- Arrow CSG wells within 800m of the bore
- Have been able to hear it bubbling within 100m for the past 3 years
- Landholder wants the water stopped prior to weekend - concerned about safety and land degradation
- Commissioner Ian Hayllor has been made aware of the bore

General Location Map:

[cid:image002.png@01D004EE.8B51DD30]

Property Map:

- Arrow Dundee wells are the orange triangles. Drilled between 2001 and 2005
- Approx 800m from bore location via Qld Globe

[cid:image001.png@01D004ED.30CE2180]

Scott Little
CSG Compliance Unit
Department of Natural Resources and Mines
Telephone: 07 4529 1330
Mobile: s.49 - Personal Information
Email:

scott.little@dnrm.qld.gov.au<<mailto:scott.little@dnrm.qld.gov.au>><<mailto:scott.little@dnrm.qld.gov.au>><<mailto:scott.little@dnrm.qld.gov.au>><<mailto:scott.little@dnrm.qld.gov.au>><<mailto:scott.little@dnrm.qld.gov.au>><<mailto:scott.little@dnrm.qld.gov.au>>

203 Tor Street, Toowoomba Qld 4350
PO Box 318, Toowoomba Qld 4350
14-258

<image001.png>

<image002.png>
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[cid:13:1411:1]
[cid:13:9790:0]
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RTI DL RELEASE - EHP

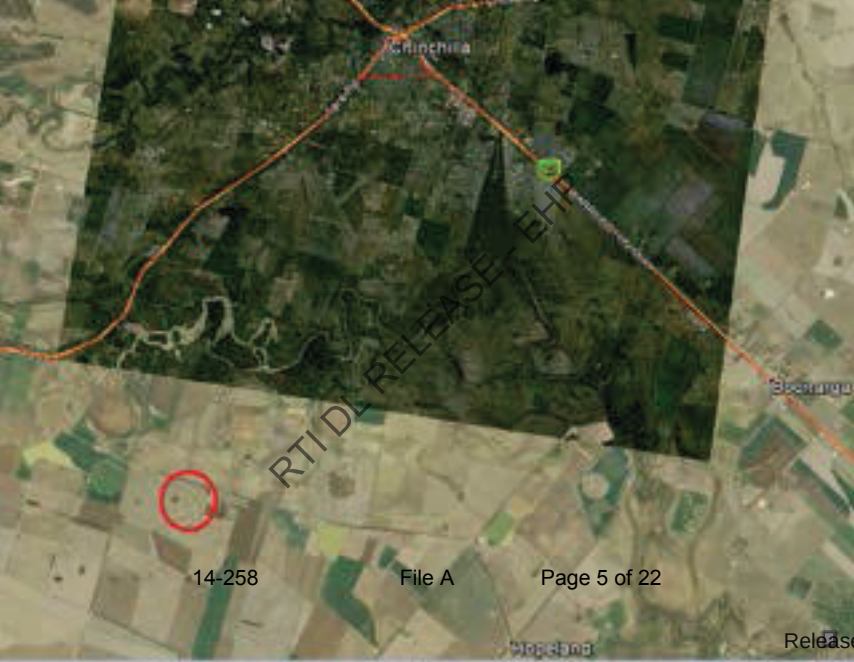


RTI DL RELEASE - EHP

14-258

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Release



Chinchila

Boqueron

RTI DL RELEASE - EHP



14-258

File A

Page 5 of 22

Wapichana

Release

From: LITTLE Scott (DNRM) [Scott.Little@dnrm.qld.gov.au]
Sent: Tuesday, 25 November 2014 3:28 PM
To: SPALDING Rob
Subject: RE: Media Release - Water Bore Blows
Attachments: CSGCU Update -Hopeland Gassy Bore.pdf

Hi Rob

Tried to call. Update FYI

Cheers

Scott Little

CSG Compliance Unit

Department of Natural Resources and Mines

Telephone: 07 4529 1330

Mobile: [REDACTED] - Personal Information

Email: scott.little@dnrm.qld.gov.au

203 Tor Street, Toowoomba Qld 4350

PO Box 318, Toowoomba Qld 4350

From: SPALDING Rob
Sent: Monday, 24 November 2014 5:17 PM
To: LITTLE Scott (DNRM)
Cc: BROWN Ruth; HORTON Sarah
Subject: FW: Media Release - Water Bore Blows

Hi Scott,

Sorry to be a pain but I am hoping that you might be able to give us an update on the outcomes of the complaints/allegations made by Shay Dougall and others regarding the reports of a gassy landholder's bore at Hopeland.

From the information that we have received I understand that this is not an "incident" that requires EHP attention in regard to EA conditions or any environmental compliance action. But I do expect that one or more of the landholders at Hopeland will eventually raise their concerns about this issue with EHP and it would be helpful for us to have some record of the DNRM investigations and findings on the matter to assist us with our response (if one is required at some future date).

There is no need to prepare anything for us in particular, but if you could keep us in the loop by sending to us a copy of any briefings or other material that describes any conclusions/recommendations made by the P&G Inspectorate or MAPO or your CSGCU in due course that would be appreciated.

Alternatively, if you have the time to give one of us a call to discuss how it had been dealt with, that would also be appreciated.

Thanks & Regards, Rob

Rob Spalding

Principal Environmental Officer
South Queensland Compliance (Toowoomba)
Environmental Services - Southern Region
Department of Environment and Heritage Protection

173 Hume Street, Toowoomba QLD 4350
P.O. Box 731 Toowoomba QLD 4350
Ph: (07) 46994349
www.ehp.qld.gov.au



From: MCDONAGH Keara
Sent: Monday, 24 November 2014 1:14 PM
To: SPALDING Rob; HORTON Sarah; BROWN Ruth
Subject: FW: Media Release - Water Bore Blows

Hi,

As discussed with Rob just now, please find attached a media release by Hopeland Community Sustainability Group regarding a "bore blow-out" for your information.

It's not clear from the release as to whether the bore in question is the same bore the subject of the attached alert from DNRm's CSG Compliance Unit. I have left a message with Scott Little (Manager, CSG Compliance Unit, DNRm) to call me back on this issue. I'll keep you posted with his response.

Cheers,

Keara McDonagh

Principal Environmental Officer (Intelligence), Petroleum, Gas and Compliance
Environmental Services and Regulation
Department of Environment and Heritage Protection
Level 7 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3330 5618
www.ehp.qld.gov.au
nprsr-email-signature



Please consider the environment before printing this email

From: NAYLOR Gillian
Sent: Monday, 24 November 2014 9:31 AM
To: MCDONAGH Keara
Cc: BAKER Tony
Subject: FW: Media Release - Water Bore Blows

Keara, as discussed. I've been talking with Shay recently, but not about this issue.

Gillian Naylor

Team Leader, Petroleum and Gas | Petroleum, Gas and Compliance
Environmental Services and Regulation
Department of Environment and Heritage Protection
Level 7 | 400 George Street | Brisbane
Tel 07 3330 5620
www.ehp.qld.gov.au
ehp-email-signature



From: Shay Dougall [<mailto:shay@molliwell.com.au>]
Sent: Monday, 24 November 2014 8:57 AM
Subject: Media Release - Water Bore Blows

Hi everyone, for your info, this is a media release I have prepared and distributed.

Regards

--

Shay Dougall
0746654072

RTI DL RELEASE - EHP

HOPELAND LANDHOLDER'S GASSY WATER BORE

WHO: Arrow Energy
WHAT: Gassy landholder water bore – safety and land degradation concerns
WHERE: Hopeland – ATP676 (approximately 20km South West of Chinchilla)
WHEN: Initial notification 20 November 2014
WHY: Community concern regarding safety of landholder bores and damage to aquifers

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY:

- The CSG Compliance Unit was made aware of a landholder bore which was showing increased signs of gas and spraying water several metres in the air late Thursday, 20 November 2014.
- The landholder had safety concerns with increased gas emissions and land degradation concerns due to brackish water spraying on the land.
- DNRM undertook an inspection of the site on Friday 21 November 2014. Staff from the Petroleum and Gas Safety Inspectorate and the CSG Compliance Unit's Groundwater Investigation and Assessment Team and CSG Engagement Team attended the inspection.
- Arrow Energy is the holder of the exploration tenure on which the bore is located. A representative from Arrow Energy attended the inspection.
- It was determined that the bore was **not** emitting gas at unsafe levels and that no ignition source was present.
- The landholder advised that water had ceased spraying from the bore at 5:30am on Friday the 21 November 2014.
- Landholder has been advised to avoid close proximity to the bore.
- The bore is located within the locality of Hopeland, approximately 20km south of Chinchilla.
- The nearest CSG wells are located approximately 1.2km from the bore. These are Arrow Energy appraisal wells which were drilled from 2001 to 2005.
- The nearest producing field is Origin Energy's Orana field, located approximately 8km to the south west of the bore.
- There is anecdotal evidence of the bore having a gaseous history.
- DNRM is working closely with Arrow Energy, as the tenure holder, and Origin Energy to progress the issue.
- Origin Energy have proactively contacted the landholder and initiated discussions on bore remediation.

POTENTIAL IMPACTS:

- Increased community concern with regards to safety in the locality of Hopeland.
- Decreased community confidence in the regulation and social licence for the CSG to LNG industry.
- Increased media attention.

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE:

- CSGCU is continuing to investigate and monitor the bore to ensure an appropriate response
- CSGCU Update to DPC, DEHP, DAFF, GasFields Commission and across DNRM.

COMPANY'S PROPOSED ACTIONS

Briefing Officer: Scott Little	Telephone: (07) 45291330	Date: 25/11/2014
Approving Officer: David Free	Telephone: (07) 45291275	Date: 25/11/2014

- Origin Energy and Arrow Energy to continue working closely with DNRM.
- Origin Energy to continue working with the landholder to progress bore remediation.

NEXT UPDATE ON INCIDENT EXPECTED:

- As required.

COMMUNICATION:

- Lock the Gate and the Hopeland Community Sustainability Group have distributed media releases which refer to the matter.
- No further communication planned at this stage.

MAP OR PLAN OF SITE:

- 20km South West of Chinchilla (Hopeland)

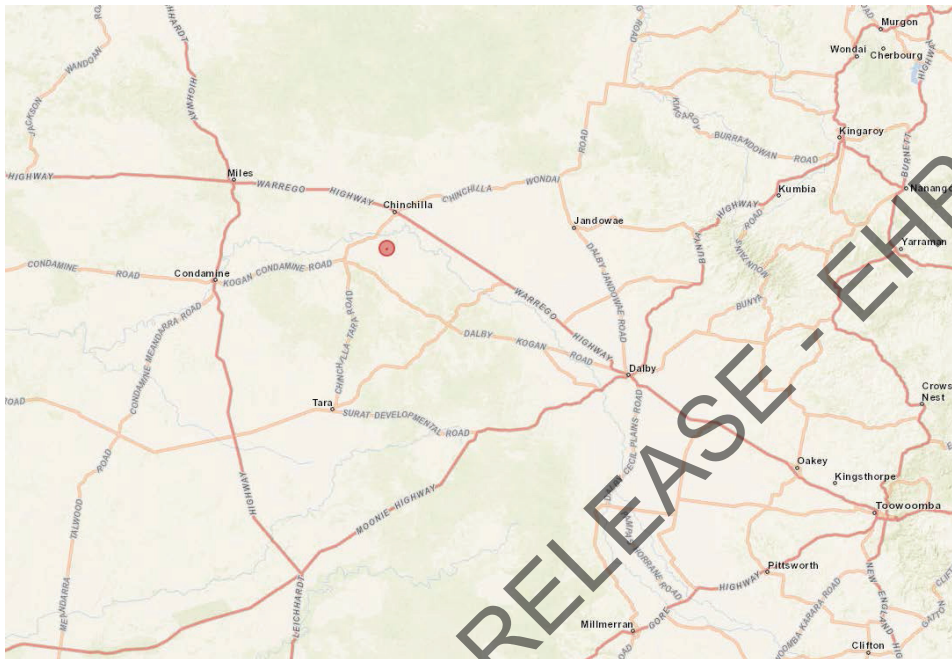


Photo of bore



Briefing Officer: Scott Little	Telephone: (07) 45291330	Date: 25/11/2014
Approving Officer: David Free	Telephone: (07) 45291275	Date: 25/11/2014

From: SPALDING Rob [Rob.Spalding@ehp.qld.gov.au]
Sent: Tuesday, 25 November 2014 4:24 PM
To: HORTON Sarah; BROWN Ruth
Subject: FW: Media Release - Water Bore Blows
Attachments: CSGCU Update -Hopeland Gassy Bore.pdf

Hi Sarah & Ruth,

Scott Little has forwarded this copy of his briefing note on the gassy water bore at Hopeland. FYI.

Rob Spalding

Principal Environmental Officer
South Queensland Compliance (Toowoomba)
Environmental Services - Southern Region
Department of Environment and Heritage Protection
173 Hume Street, Toowoomba QLD 4350
P.O. Box 731 Toowoomba QLD 4350
Ph: (07) 46994349
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From: LITTLE Scott (DNRM)
Sent: Tuesday, 25 November 2014 3:29 PM
To: SPALDING Rob
Subject: RE: Media Release - Water Bore Blows

Hi Rob

Tried to call. Update FYI

Cheers

Scott Little

CSG Compliance Unit
Department of Natural Resources and Mines
Telephone: 07 4529 1330
Mobile:
Email: scott.little@dnrm.qld.gov.au
203 Tor Street, Toowoomba Qld 4350
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Keara McDonagh

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Regards

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POTENTIAL IMPACTS:

- Increased community concern with regards to safety in the locality of Hopeland.
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- Increased media attention.

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE:

- CSGCU is continuing to investigate and monitor the bore to ensure an appropriate response
- CSGCU Update to DPC, DEHP, DAFF, GasFields Commission and across DNRM.

COMPANY'S PROPOSED ACTIONS

Briefing Officer: Scott Little	Telephone: (07) 45291330	Date: 25/11/2014
Approving Officer: David Free	Telephone: (07) 45291275	Date: 25/11/2014

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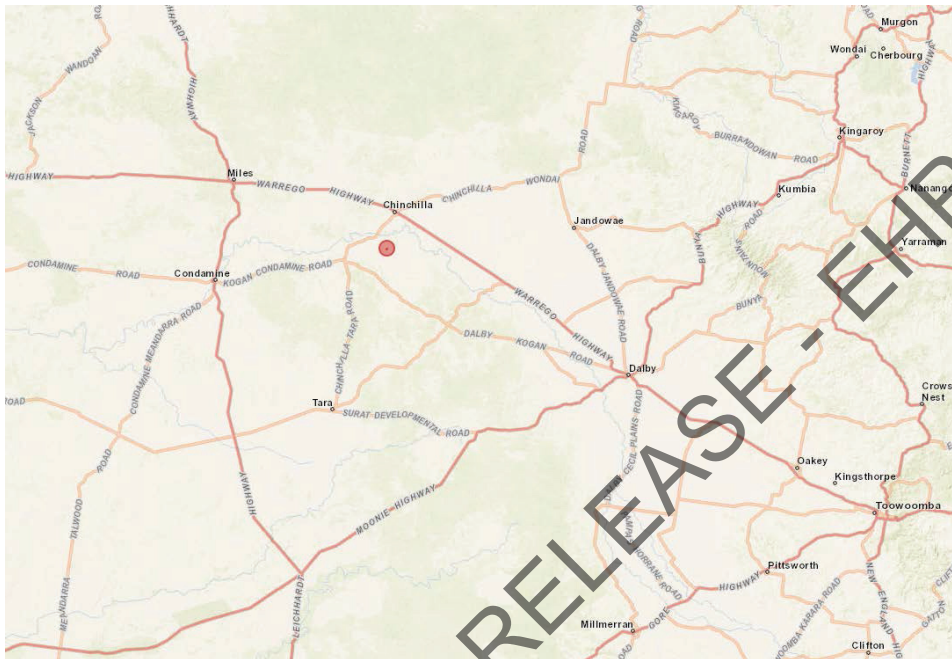


Photo of bore



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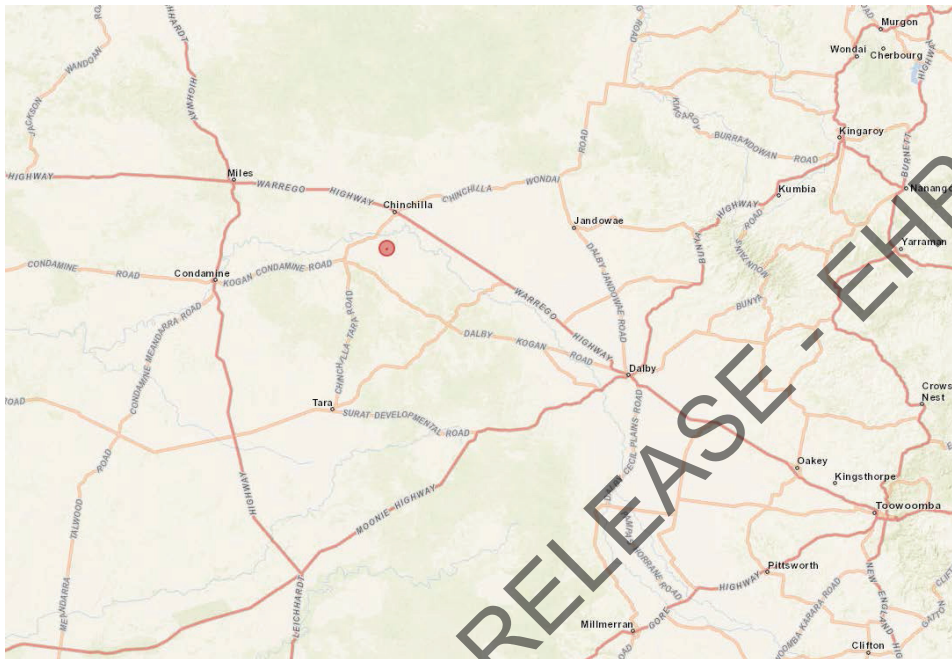


Photo of bore



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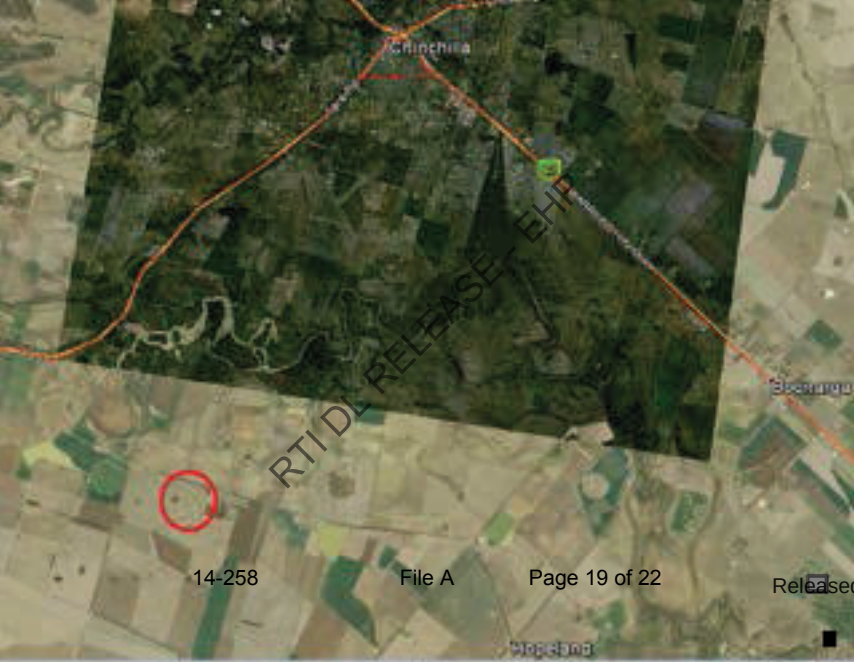


RTI DL RELEASE - EHP

14-258

File Page 18 of 22

Released



RTI DL RELEASE - EHP



Hopeland experiences taste of dry future

On Thursday 20 November 2014 at approximately 6.30pm an old bore that had been disused but stable for 30 year inexplicably let out a loud bang and followed with an almighty gush of water and gas 6 foot into the air. It then continued to release water (including from outside of the casing) for another day. Now it sits with nothing much to indicate anything had happened other than an interesting thin white crust on the ground, and the eerie sound of gas rushing out of it and a side to side movement to the casing.

The Bore is in the Walloon coal measures as almost all of the priority agricultural Hopeland farming bores are.

Bores are used in this part of the country to water stock and to supply an alternative water source to the farmer in times of drought. ***We all know, no water, no farm.***

This event spells the death of all bores in the Walloons. This spells the impending death of the Aquifer. Which Aquifer is next?

The Hopeland community spend the next few days anxiously discussing the occurrence amongst themselves trying to get to the bottom of the event.

By Sunday it is understood that the CSG Compliance Unit had visited.

The Hopeland Community Sustainability Group contacted Origin via email on Saturday night and then again on Sunday with a phone call and email to senior management in Origin expressing the anxiety of every landholder with a bore in the community and requesting full and frank information sharing .

By midday the 'on duty' landholder liaison had returned the contact and when asked directly for information regarding the bore that blew out, he responded with, "I don't know what you are talking about, what bore?".

I then received an email from the Senior Manager saying that he was not aware of any safety or emergency issues that needed immediate attention and that further details will be found out next week.

Some facts about CSG, farm bores, aquifers.

1. When one gas field is depressurised and dewatered, the next door field may have the added bonus reaction of releasing its gas easier.
2. Hopeland is in PL 272, which is largely undrilled (as yet) and is right next door (over the road from) the Orana Gas Processing Facility and the Orana Gasfield
3. This bore from Thursday is about 5 km from one of Origins locations for monitoring equipment for the "Condamine Seep". And about 10 km from the Orana GPF and gas field (see diagram on last page)
4. The Orana Gas Processing Facility has been undergoing commissioning and a massive flare burning TJs of gas out of the Orana gas field each time it is ignited (tera joule – 1 trillion joules)
5. A typical well will have 500-1000 bbl/d of water per day = 159 litre x 1000 = 159000 litres = number of litres of water from one typical well in phase one of production. How many lots of 159000 litres per day can be removed from the aquifer before it effects the other "licenced users of allocated amounts" of that very same water?
6. As of September 2014 Origin have roughly 800 gas wells commissioned

Media Release

23 November 2014



7. Early Data indicates Orana performance to be better than expected, high water rates when brought online, number of wells producing gas immediately upon start up, 13 wells are free flowing (no downhole pump required)
8. The first Hopeland bore to blow in this way due to depressurising and dewatering activity was in 2008, again in 2010 and now this stable disused bore in 2014.
9. There are a number of farmer water bores across Hopeland that in the last year have begun percolating and bubbling and gaseous

The bores in Hopeland will start blowing, then the aquifer will be ruined and what of the farmer?

How will the gas companies "Make Good". Where are they going to get guaranteed water from to give back to the farmers? **No water, no farm.**

Ministers McVeigh, Cripps, Seeney and Premier Newman are on notice. The people of Hopeland on behalf of all farmers in the midst of this nightmare, are called on now to reread the letters and emails sent to them by worried and heartbroken farmers and come out to Hopeland and explain again to these farmers how they are protecting priority agricultural land and aquifers.

If they were really protecting people, agriculture and aquifers, the CSG industry would be rolled back, they would be forced to undertake water conservation actions to prevent the aquifers from being drained and it would not be left to individual farmers to negotiate with multinational companies to protect their families, businesses, land and water.

So I guess that means that our perspective is all wrong in the staunch and beautiful strategic cropping country that is Hopeland:

- A stable disused water bore is actually a free flowing gas bore that no longer needs a down hole pump.
- That the farmers and cattle and crops currently enjoying quite paddocks and hard work everywhere, should be advised, there is no safety risk or emergency associated with the possibility of operating bores or disused bores inexplicably blowing water and gas 6 foot into the air.
- That while millions of litres of water is drained from the aquifer the farmers have their bores in, there is no connection to farmers bores having gas instead of water.
- But don't worry, not ALL of the water from the aquifer will be gone, as the CSG Company's Environmental Authority specifies that one of the activities they are permitted to undertake is a petroleum activity that involves **injection of a waste fluid into a natural underground reservoir or aquifer**
- Full and frank discussion and information is not required (forget in a timely manner or proactively) from those responsible to those anxious farmers as there is clearly no problem.
- The next helpful activity from the CSG Companies and the Government will be to make farmers go out and foot the bill for the time, expense and danger of shutting in the now free flowing gas wells they have on their properties to stop the wasteful release of 'their' gas.

ENDS

