



THE NIMBIN GOODTIMES

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CSG FREE

Coastal Banksia Edition

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Photo: Gasfield Free Northern Rivers

VICTORY!

standing firm for terra firma

by Melody Smith and staff writers

In the aftermath of what was one of the biggest turnouts for the environment this century, many people are resting easier at night.

Resting, knowing they fought for clean water, air and the safeguarding of our precious agricultural land.

And won. For now.

Metgasco's approval for a gas well construction at Bentley was suspended on 14th May by the Office of Coal Seam Gas, citing inadequate community consultation, and making a reference to ICEC about possible corrupt share dealings.

Since then, ICAC has responded that Metgasco's share arrangements did not fall within its jurisdiction, and the company has announced the start of legal action in the Supreme Court against the NSW government over the suspension of its licence.

Metgasco still have a period of time to provide further submissions about its community consultation process, and meantime their miniscule share price, around \$0.049, could make them an attractive takeover target for larger miners.

The struggle is far from over.



Photo: R. J. Poole

This invasive cancerous industry has many tendrils, in the form of Petroleum Exploration Licences, threatening to seep poison into our land, water and air.

Why is it that mining is statistically the third most hazardous industry to the health of its workers? Will it cause DNA mutations to be passed through to offspring? Will the land used for CSG mining be forever damaged beyond repair?

These are only a few of the myriad of questions which beg for answers. And,

realistically, can we expect those with vested economic interests, including the government, to adequately and honestly answer them?

These are questions which concern every single one of us. You will feel the effects of these outdated fossil fuel industries in your lifetime, and conceivably, starting this decade.

The time has come for all of us ordinary folks to speak up, stand up, and get real about what is happening in this country before our eyes.

Before it is too late.



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