

4/5/2019

"Submission #1"

RPIAct@dsdmip.qld.gov.au

Submission Regarding Arrow Energy RIDA Application #RPI19-002

The RPI Act is one of the few opportunities that landholders have to contribute to and scrutinise the decisions that the government makes in relation to the unconventional gas industry.

The RPI Act is described as seeking to strike a balance between protecting priority land uses and managing the impacts of (and supporting coexistence with) mining and petroleum activities.

The first part of that statement is the pivotal part. The government has been giving the unconventional gas industry primacy over agriculture from the start of the industry. This is the perfect example where due to unprecedented access, poor oversight and non-existent transparency the government and the industry use a tick and flick approach to permitting gas activities leaving the landholder completely unrepresented and in the dark.

In this case, the Linc Energy Contamination is at the heart of the issue.

I submit that the RIDA application referred to above be denied on the grounds that it is not a true, detailed or transparent application that allows a reasonable assessment to determine if the activity will threaten priority agricultural land, nor if adequate controls will be in place to manage the impact of the proposed activities.

In addition, I submit based on the evidence provided in this submission, that the entire PL 253, PL493 and PL185 be removed permanently and the areas be restricted to the existing priority use of the land, agriculture and that the current contamination impacts and potential for exacerbation which may be widespread and irreversible be the reason further resource activity is banned.

Please see attached the details supporting my submission.

F

Relevant documents to this submission

1. RPI Act Statutory Guideline 02/14 (D17/138774 RPI Act Statutory Guideline 02/14)
<https://dsdmipprd.blob.core.windows.net/general/rpi-guideline-02-14-carrying-out-activities-in-a-paa.pdf>
2. -Arrow RIDA for monitoring wells
<https://planning.dsdmip.qld.gov.au/planning/regional-planning-interests-act/rpi-act-applications-submissions-and-decision-notice>
3. Click on RPI19/002/Wyalla (in particular, the Report and Annexure, linked below)
<https://dsdmipprd.blob.core.windows.net/general/rpi-19-002-report-and-annexures.pdf>
4. Arrow EA for the PL 253
<https://apps.des.qld.gov.au/env-authorities/pdf/ea0001401.pdf>
5. Arrow EA for the PL 493
<https://apps.des.qld.gov.au/env-authorities/pdf/ea0001613.pdf>
6. Maps showing relevant properties and area described

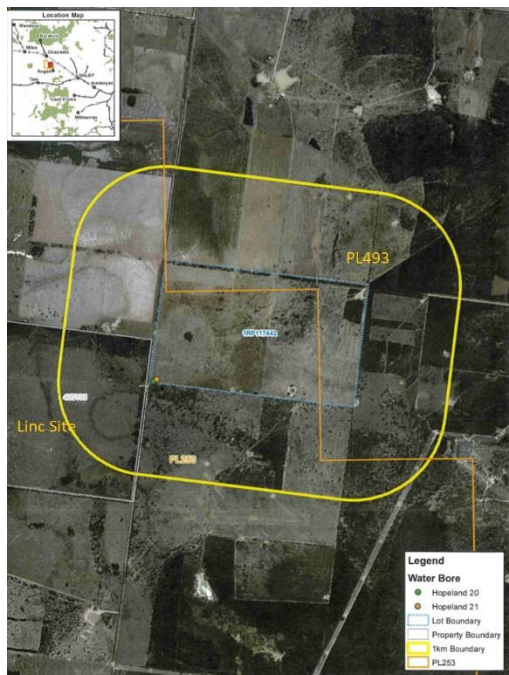


Figure 1 Map showing the information missing from the RIDA, location of the Linc site and the Petroleum leases

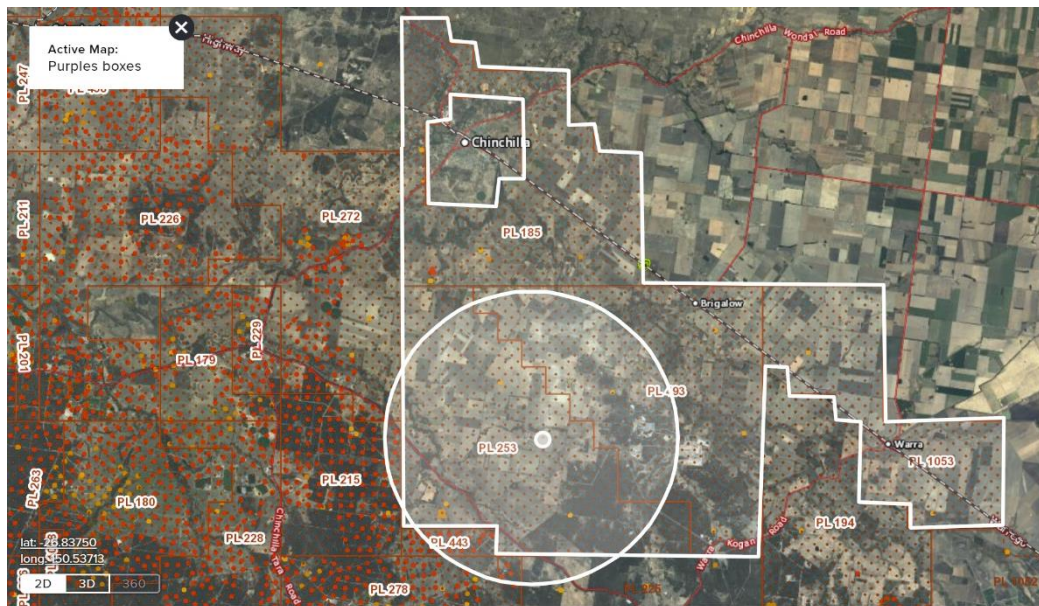


Figure 2Map showing the impacted areas, Linc Site, Petroleum leases and the 10km Linc exclusion zone from the EA

Details of submission in relation to the specific elements outlined in the RTI Act Statutory Guidelines 02/14 - Carrying out resource activities in a priority agricultural area

1. Piecemeal approach of application avoids full proper assessment of impacts under RPI Act

The first problem with this RIDA is the piecemeal approach that the legislation allows for the industry to approach their approvals that means they are able to subjugate the assessment requirements to suit themselves.

This particular RIDA application is for activities that are in fact a small part of a much larger project across the impacted area. However due to the piecemeal approach they are able to classify this RIDA as only needing to address the Required Outcome 1.

This leaves the issues associated with Required outcome 2 outlined in Table 3 in the guideline out of the assessment process. However these are critical to a proper assessment of the activity as a whole, particularly the prescribed solutions relating to irreversible contamination, OGIA consultation, potentially constraining or restriction of the ongoing use of the area.

That is as per Required Outcome 2, we submit that the activity will result in a material impact on the region because of the activity's impact on the use of land in the PAA for 1 or more PALUs.

Therefore this assessment is unable to identify the significant issues and prescribed solutions identified in Table 3 of the guide and they are in fact critical to the issue at hand.

2. Inadequate information has been provided by the applicant to allow full assessment

This RIDA application does not detail important information to enable appropriate assessment of the application. The information that is missing is detailed below and is relevant to the prescribed solutions outlined in Table 1 & 2.

The Application fails to identify that the RIDA application is in fact part of the larger activities outlined below.

- The EA for PL 253 permits 6 CSG wells, 20 groundwater monitoring wells, 2 sediment ponds and a regulated CSG Water Dam.
- The EA also places significant conditions on Arrow to (by October 2018) monitor EXISTING contamination from the Linc contamination source site to groundwater, and detail a program whereby they will assess the impact of their activities on the existing contamination, 'model' their impact, monitor the existing contamination and advise the government if they detect early indications that their activities have caused a change in the contamination of the groundwater. Which given the experience of landholders impacted by the Linc contamination, this will be too little too late.
- Meanwhile the EA for the neighbouring PL 493 and PL 185 is DIFFERENT to the EA for the neighbouring PL 253. It prescribes that Arrows activities "not directly or indirectly influence the mobilisation of existing groundwater contamination on [Linc]." That Arrow "must not locate *any* coal seam gas production wells within 10 kilometres of the centre of [Linc]." And that the government MAY require Arrow to model and present their findings in relation to their CSG impacts on groundwater contamination from the Linc site.

The 10km zone includes:

- All of PL253
- some of neighbouring PLs from other gas companies who ALREADY have CSG wells in place WITHOUT these conditions
- And half of PL 493

This raises questions for the government to answer and information to be provided directly to the affected landholders (arguably all those impacted by these two PLs) and that should be considered in assessing this RIDA application.

- Why is a 10km exclusion zone in place, why not 20km for example?
- Why are the 6 wells in the EA for PL253 allowed when EA for PL493 explicitly prevents them?
- Provide the affected landholders and in the RIDA the risk assessment that created the 10km CSG Production well exclusion zone.
- Provide the affected landholders, the public and the RIDA assessment officers with the testing results from the Linc contamination (eg copies of reports on the status of the contamination specifically groundwater monitoring network on the Linc site, and the characterisation of Linc's underground coal gasification cavities). It is now in the public interest as it impacts on the EA and landholders should be able to require testing of their water bores (and overland flow due to the presence of a surface water creek on the site) and land in accordance with the findings.
- Provide the affected landholders and the RIDA assessment officers the testing from the other CSG company's impact on the groundwater contamination given they have wells inside the 10km exclusion zone without these conditions
- Provide the affected landholders and the RIDA assessment officers with a copy of the 2018 Arrow modelling and assessment of their activities in relation to the contamination detailed in the EA.

3. Application does not meet Required Outcome 1 and Interaction between Arrow proposal and Linc contamination site is inappropriate and dangerous – RIDA application should not be approved

Which brings us to the Arrow RIDA application for 2 groundwater monitoring bores to be placed on property owned by Arrow within PL 253, right next to the Linc contamination source site.

- Nowhere in their application do they mention the need to have the monitoring bores in place as a result of the requirements of their EA (conflicting as they may be).
- Nowhere is the Linc contamination source Site discussed, only a reference to the lot and plan number of the property is made.
- Nowhere is there an assessment of what putting the monitoring bores in will do to the contamination (Linc's own water monitoring bores have been proven to be a pathway for the contamination).
- Nowhere in the application is the supposed 2018 Arrow modelling and assessment document required by the EA referred to.
- No further impact of their activities is assessed due to the ridiculously circuitous and useless loophole in the legislation and application process that allows them to assert they INTEND to get CCAs with landholders (who are not yet identified and will therefore have no ability to influence this application decision, when the reality is the potential to mobilise and make worse the contamination from Linc is a very real issue that should be a very overt and transparent assessment process in an attempt to protect priority agricultural land)
- Section 1.4 in the Arrow application states that they have safely and sustainably produced CSG, this statement is unfounded and not proven. It has the effect of influencing the assessment without any actual data to prove it.
- Section 1.5 again makes unfounded assertions and absolutely lacks any feedback from those supposedly "coexisted" with. It makes the application process circuitous and self-fulfilling.
- Section 1.6 discusses area wide planning that has not been undertaken and again is an example of the useless circuitous process whereby the impacted landholders are not represented or consulted until after the fact. In this specific application, the the specific consultation and technical details with which they refer in the last paragraph in this section is absurd and further highlights the tick and flick process of the assessment as it refers to them having undertaken this consultation and a CCA process with themselves, Arrow are both the landholder and the applicant.
- Section 2.1 their description of the works assiduously avoids openly and transparently describing the very specific reason for the groundwater monitoring program – the Linc contamination, therefore any impact of the contamination is not taken into consideration in the assessment of the application.
- It does not give any discussion or evidence as to how Arrow have previously assessed that this activity will not impact or exacerbate the existing Linc contamination nor how it will into the future and therefore in assessing the RIDA, none of that will be considered. The application fails to identify the need for baseline testing prior to undertaking the activity to identify any further interaction with the contamination to the soil, surface water etc.
- Section 2.3.2 describes the CSG activities in primacy and fails to recognise the original and more important primary use of the land limiting the adequate assessment of the application.
- Section 2.4 fails to indicate the important interactions with PL 493 and subsequent EA conditions with this PL and EA limiting the meaningful assessment of the application.
- Section 3.1.3 asserts that PALU does not apply to the property because the property has not been use for PALU for at least 3 of the previous 10 years. This is an inaccurate representation because for 5 of the last 10 years Arrow themselves have owned the

property, and by the nature of their business PALU is not their core activity and therefore not their interest. This again prevents a true assessment of the application (which in itself is an additional problem with the legislation, because the significant purchasing of land in the area by the CSG industry means that the original priority use of the land and the intent of the legislation is skewed due to the encroachment of the industry and lack of representation of the farmers in the process). The framing of this criteria means that the resource sector can simply buy up all of our prime agricultural land and sit on it without using it as PALU – avoiding this criteria and destroying our agricultural land. This is an unacceptable outcome for Queensland's precious agricultural land.

- The application fails to identify the how the impact of the chain of responsibility amendments will influence their activities
- The maps, EAs, PL, land parcels and descriptions rely on surface land parcels and boundaries but do not acknowledge that the source of the contamination is underground and does not show that underground source in relation to the proposed groundwater monitoring or other CSG activities therefore this cannot be a reasonable assessment.

4/5/2019

"Submission #2"

RPIAct@dsdmip.qld.gov.au

Submission Regarding Arrow Energy RIDA Application #RPI19-002

The RPI Act is one of the few opportunities that landholders have to contribute to and scrutinise the decisions that the government makes in relation to the unconventional gas industry.

The RPI Act is described as seeking to strike a balance between protecting priority land uses and managing the impacts of (and supporting coexistence with) mining and petroleum activities.

The first part of that statement is the pivotal part. The government has been giving the unconventional gas industry primacy over agriculture from the start of the industry. This is the perfect example where due to unprecedented access, poor oversight and non-existent transparency the government and the industry use a tick and flick approach to permitting gas activities leaving the landholder completely unrepresented and in the dark.

In this case, the Linc Energy Contamination is at the heart of the issue.

I submit that the RIDA application referred to above be denied on the grounds that it is not a true, detailed or transparent application that allows a reasonable assessment to determine if the activity will threaten priority agricultural land, nor if adequate controls will be in place to manage the impact of the proposed activities.

In addition, I submit based on the evidence provided in this submission, that the entire PL 253, PL493 and PL185 be removed permanently and the areas be restricted to the existing priority use of the land, agriculture and that the current contamination impacts and potential for exacerbation which may be widespread and irreversible be the reason further resource activity is banned.

Please see attached the details supporting my submission.

E

Relevant documents to this submission

1. RPI Act Statutory Guideline 02/14 (D17/138774 RPI Act Statutory Guideline 02/14)
<https://dsdmipprd.blob.core.windows.net/general/rpi-guideline-02-14-carrying-out-activities-in-a-paa.pdf>
2. -Arrow RIDA for monitoring wells
<https://planning.dsdmip.qld.gov.au/planning/regional-planning-interests-act/rpi-act-applications-submissions-and-decision-notice>
3. Click on RPI19/002/Wyalla (in particular, the Report and Annexure, linked below)
<https://dsdmipprd.blob.core.windows.net/general/rpi-19-002-report-and-annexures.pdf>
4. Arrow EA for the PL 253
<https://apps.des.qld.gov.au/env-authorities/pdf/ea0001401.pdf>
5. Arrow EA for the PL 493
<https://apps.des.qld.gov.au/env-authorities/pdf/ea0001613.pdf>
6. Maps showing relevant properties and area described

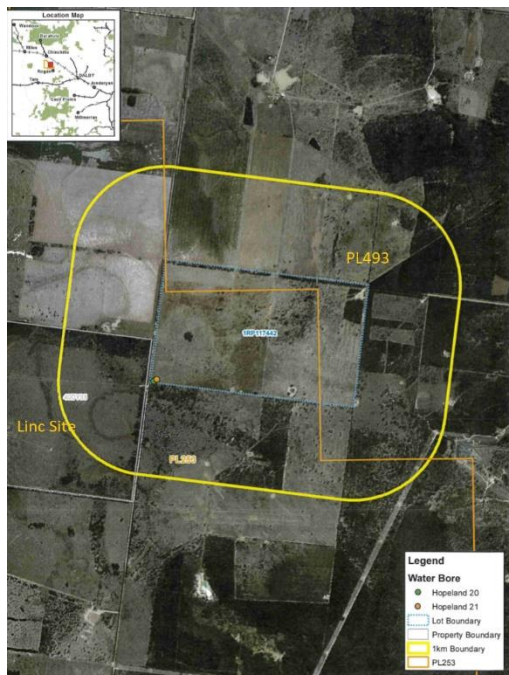


Figure 1 Map showing the information missing from the RIDA, location of the Linc site and the Petroleum leases

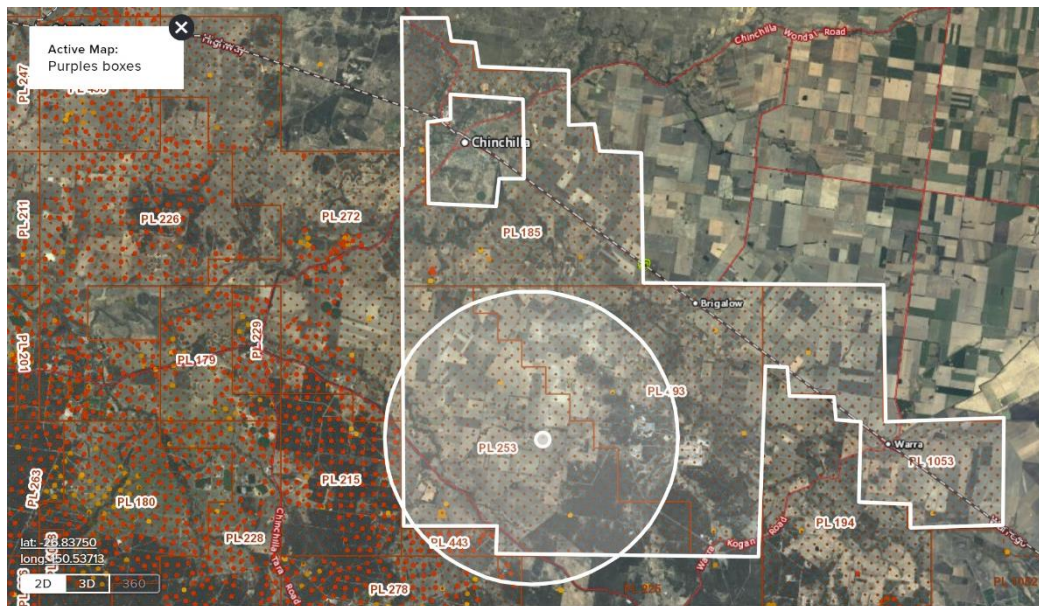


Figure 2Map showing the impacted areas, Linc Site, Petroleum leases and the 10km Linc exclusion zone from the EA

Details of submission in relation to the specific elements outlined in the RTI Act Statutory Guidelines 02/14 - Carrying out resource activities in a priority agricultural area

1. Piecemeal approach of application avoids full proper assessment of impacts under RPI Act

The first problem with this RIDA is the piecemeal approach that the legislation allows for the industry to approach their approvals that means they are able to subjugate the assessment requirements to suit themselves.

This particular RIDA application is for activities that are in fact a small part of a much larger project across the impacted area. However due to the piecemeal approach they are able to classify this RIDA as only needing to address the Required Outcome 1.

This leaves the issues associated with Required outcome 2 outlined in Table 3 in the guideline out of the assessment process. However these are critical to a proper assessment of the activity as a whole, particularly the prescribed solutions relating to irreversible contamination, OGIA consultation, potentially constraining or restriction of the ongoing use of the area.

That is as per Required Outcome 2, we submit that the activity will result in a material impact on the region because of the activity's impact on the use of land in the PAA for 1 or more PALUs.

Therefore this assessment is unable to identify the significant issues and prescribed solutions identified in Table 3 of the guide and they are in fact critical to the issue at hand.

2. Inadequate information has been provided by the applicant to allow full assessment

This RIDA application does not detail important information to enable appropriate assessment of the application. The information that is missing is detailed below and is relevant to the prescribed solutions outlined in Table 1 & 2.

The Application fails to identify that the RIDA application is in fact part of the larger activities outlined below.

- The EA for PL 253 permits 6 CSG wells, 20 groundwater monitoring wells, 2 sediment ponds and a regulated CSG Water Dam.
- The EA also places significant conditions on Arrow to (by October 2018) monitor EXISTING contamination from the Linc contamination source site to groundwater, and detail a program whereby they will assess the impact of their activities on the existing contamination, 'model' their impact, monitor the existing contamination and advise the government if they detect early indications that their activities have caused a change in the contamination of the groundwater. Which given the experience of landholders impacted by the Linc contamination, this will be too little too late.
- Meanwhile the EA for the neighbouring PL 493 and PL 185 is DIFFERENT to the EA for the neighbouring PL 253. It prescribes that Arrows activities "not directly or indirectly influence the mobilisation of existing groundwater contamination on [Linc]." That Arrow "must not locate *any* coal seam gas production wells within 10 kilometres of the centre of [Linc]." And that the government MAY require Arrow to model and present their findings in relation to their CSG impacts on groundwater contamination from the Linc site.

The 10km zone includes:

- All of PL253
- some of neighbouring PLs from other gas companies who ALREADY have CSG wells in place WITHOUT these conditions
- And half of PL 493

This raises questions for the government to answer and information to be provided directly to the affected landholders (arguably all those impacted by these two PLs) and that should be considered in assessing this RIDA application.

- Why is a 10km exclusion zone in place, why not 20km for example?
- Why are the 6 wells in the EA for PL253 allowed when EA for PL493 explicitly prevents them?
- Provide the affected landholders and in the RIDA the risk assessment that created the 10km CSG Production well exclusion zone.
- Provide the affected landholders, the public and the RIDA assessment officers with the testing results from the Linc contamination (eg copies of reports on the status of the contamination specifically groundwater monitoring network on the Linc site, and the characterisation of Linc's underground coal gasification cavities). It is now in the public interest as it impacts on the EA and landholders should be able to require testing of their water bores (and overland flow due to the presence of a surface water creek on the site) and land in accordance with the findings.
- Provide the affected landholders and the RIDA assessment officers the testing from the other CSG company's impact on the groundwater contamination given they have wells inside the 10km exclusion zone without these conditions
- Provide the affected landholders and the RIDA assessment officers with a copy of the 2018 Arrow modelling and assessment of their activities in relation to the contamination detailed in the EA.

3. Application does not meet Required Outcome 1 and Interaction between Arrow proposal and Linc contamination site is inappropriate and dangerous – RIDA application should not be approved

Which brings us to the Arrow RIDA application for 2 groundwater monitoring bores to be placed on property owned by Arrow within PL 253, right next to the Linc contamination source site.

- Nowhere in their application do they mention the need to have the monitoring bores in place as a result of the requirements of their EA (conflicting as they may be).
- Nowhere is the Linc contamination source Site discussed, only a reference to the lot and plan number of the property is made.
- Nowhere is there an assessment of what putting the monitoring bores in will do to the contamination (Linc's own water monitoring bores have been proven to be a pathway for the contamination).
- Nowhere in the application is the supposed 2018 Arrow modelling and assessment document required by the EA referred to.
- No further impact of their activities is assessed due to the ridiculously circuitous and useless loophole in the legislation and application process that allows them to assert they INTEND to get CCAs with landholders (who are not yet identified and will therefore have no ability to influence this application decision, when the reality is the potential to mobilise and make worse the contamination from Linc is a very real issue that should be a very overt and transparent assessment process in an attempt to protect priority agricultural land)
- Section 1.4 in the Arrow application states that they have safely and sustainably produced CSG, this statement is unfounded and not proven. It has the effect of influencing the assessment without any actual data to prove it.
- Section 1.5 again makes unfounded assertions and absolutely lacks any feedback from those supposedly "coexisted" with. It makes the application process circuitous and self-fulfilling.
- Section 1.6 discusses area wide planning that has not been undertaken and again is an example of the useless circuitous process whereby the impacted landholders are not represented or consulted until after the fact. In this specific application, the the specific consultation and technical details with which they refer in the last paragraph in this section is absurd and further highlights the tick and flick process of the assessment as it refers to them having undertaken this consultation and a CCA process with themselves, Arrow are both the landholder and the applicant.
- Section 2.1 their description of the works assiduously avoids openly and transparently describing the very specific reason for the groundwater monitoring program – the Linc contamination, therefore any impact of the contamination is not taken into consideration in the assessment of the application.
- It does not give any discussion or evidence as to how Arrow have previously assessed that this activity will not impact or exacerbate the existing Linc contamination nor how it will into the future and therefore in assessing the RIDA, none of that will be considered. The application fails to identify the need for baseline testing prior to undertaking the activity to identify any further interaction with the contamination to the soil, surface water etc.
- Section 2.3.2 describes the CSG activities in primacy and fails to recognise the original and more important primary use of the land limiting the adequate assessment of the application.
- Section 2.4 fails to indicate the important interactions with PL 493 and subsequent EA conditions with this PL and EA limiting the meaningful assessment of the application.
- Section 3.1.3 asserts that PALU does not apply to the property because the property has not been use for PALU for at least 3 of the previous 10 years. This is an inaccurate representation because for 5 of the last 10 years Arrow themselves have owned the

property, and by the nature of their business PALU is not their core activity and therefore not their interest. This again prevents a true assessment of the application (which in itself is an additional problem with the legislation, because the significant purchasing of land in the area by the CSG industry means that the original priority use of the land and the intent of the legislation is skewed due to the encroachment of the industry and lack of representation of the farmers in the process). The framing of this criteria means that the resource sector can simply buy up all of our prime agricultural land and sit on it without using it as PALU – avoiding this criteria and destroying our agricultural land. This is an unacceptable outcome for Queensland's precious agricultural land.

- The application fails to identify the how the impact of the chain of responsibility amendments will influence their activities
- The maps, EAs, PL, land parcels and descriptions rely on surface land parcels and boundaries but do not acknowledge that the source of the contamination is underground and does not show that underground source in relation to the proposed groundwater monitoring or other CSG activities therefore this cannot be a reasonable assessment.

18/5/2019

"Submission #3"

RPIAct@dsmip.qld.gov.au

Re: Submission Regarding Arrow Energy RIDA Application #RPI19-002

The RPI Act is one of the few opportunities that landholders have to contribute to and scrutinise the decisions that the government makes in relation to the coalseam gas industry.

The RPI Act is described as seeking to strike a balance between protecting priority land uses and managing the impacts of (and supporting coexistence with) mining and petroleum activities.

The first part of that statement is the pivotal part. The government has been giving the coalseam gas industry primacy over agriculture from the start of the industry. This is the perfect example where due to unprecedented access, poor oversight and non-existent transparency the government and the industry use a tick and flick approach to permitting gas activities leaving the landholder completely unrepresented and in the dark.

In this case, the Linc Energy Contamination is at the heart of the issue.

I submit that the RIDA application referred to above be denied on the grounds that it is not a true, detailed or transparent application that allows a reasonable assessment to determine if the activity will threaten priority agricultural land, nor if adequate controls will be in place to manage the impact of the proposed activities.

In addition, I submit based on the evidence provided in this submission, that the entire PL 253 and PL493 be removed permanently and the areas be restricted to the existing priority use of the land, agriculture and that the current contamination impacts and potential for exacerbation which may be widespread and irreversible be the reason further resource activity is banned.

Please see attached the details supporting my submission.



Relevant documents to this submission

- RPI Act Statutory Guideline 02/14 (D17/138774 RPI Act Statutory Guideline 02/14)
<https://dsmipprd.blob.core.windows.net/general/rpi-guideline-02-14-carrying-out-activities-in-a-paa.pdf>
- -Arrow RIDA for monitoring wells
<https://planning.dsmip.qld.gov.au/planning/regional-planning-interests-act/rpi-act-applications-submissions-and-decision-notice>
- Click on RPI19/002/Wyalla (in particular, the Report and Annexure, linked below)

<https://dsdmipprd.blob.core.windows.net/general/rpi-19-002-report-and-annexures.pdf>

- Arrow EA for the PL 253

<https://apps.des.qld.gov.au/env-authorities/pdf/ea0001401.pdf>

- Arrow EA for the PL 493

<https://apps.des.qld.gov.au/env-authorities/pdf/ea0001613.pdf>

- Maps showing relevant properties and area described

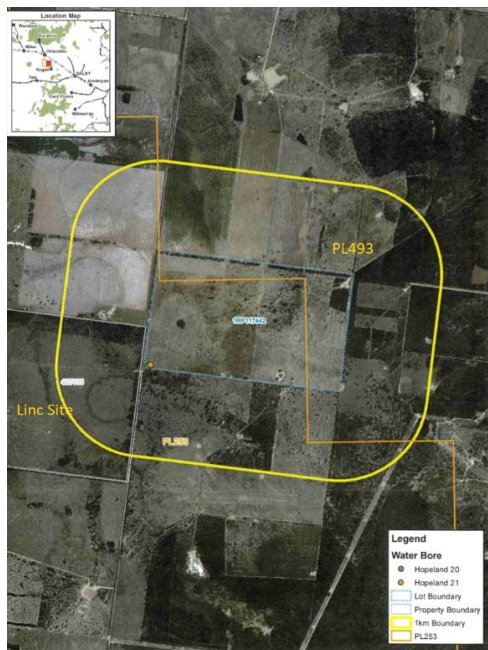


Figure 1 Map showing the information missing from the RIDA, location of the Linc site and the Petroleum leases

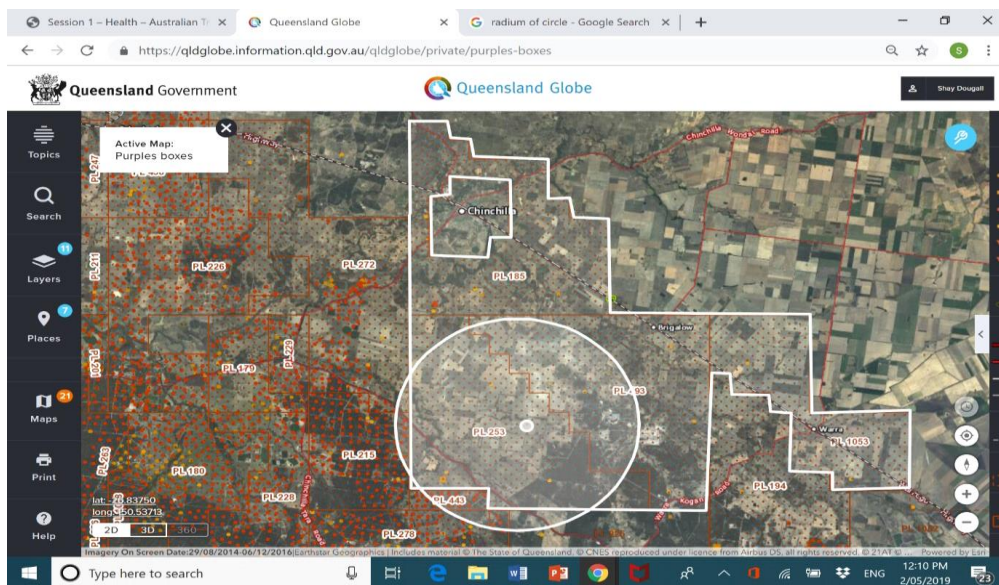


Figure 2 Map showing the impacted areas, Linc Site, Petroleum leases and the 10km Linc exclusion zone from the EA

Details of submission in relation to the specific elements outlined in the RTI Act Statutory Guidelines 02/14 - Carrying out resource activities in a priority agricultural area

1. Piecemeal approach of application avoids full proper assessment of impacts under RPI Act

The first problem with this RIDA is the piecemeal approach that the legislation allows for the industry to approach their approvals that means they are able to subjugate the assessment requirements to suit themselves.

This particular RIDA application is for activities that are in fact a small part of a much larger project across the impacted area. However due to the piecemeal approach they are able to classify this RIDA as only needing to address the Required Outcome 1.

This leaves the issues associated with Required outcome 2 outlined in Table 3 in the guideline out of the assessment process. However these are critical to a proper assessment of the activity as a whole, particularly the prescribed solutions relating to irreversible contamination, OGIA consultation, potentially constraining or restriction of the ongoing use of the area.

That is as per Required Outcome 2, we submit that the activity **will** result in a material impact on the **region** because of the activity's impact on the use of land in the PAA for 1 or more PALUs.

Therefore this assessment is unable to identify the significant issues and prescribed solutions identified in Table 3 of the guide and they are in fact critical to the issue at hand.

2. Inadequate information has been provided by the applicant to allow full assessment

This RIDA application does not detail important information to enable appropriate assessment of the application. The information that is missing is detailed below and is relevant to the prescribed solutions outlined in Table 1 & 2.

The Application fails to identify that the RIDA application is in fact part of the larger activities outlined below.

- The EA for PL 253 permits 6 CSG wells, 20 groundwater monitoring wells, 2 sediment ponds and a regulated CSG Water Dam.
- The EA also places significant conditions on Arrow to (by October 2018) monitor EXISTING contamination from the Linc contamination source site to groundwater, and detail a program whereby they will assess the impact of their activities on the existing contamination, 'model' their impact, monitor the existing contamination and advise the government if they detect early indications that their activities have caused a change in the contamination of the groundwater. Which given the experience of landholders impacted by the Linc contamination, this will be too little too late.
- Meanwhile the EA for the neighbouring PL 493 is DIFFERENT to the EA for the neighbouring PL 253. It prescribes that Arrows activities "not directly or indirectly influence the mobilisation of existing groundwater contamination on [Linc]." That Arrow "must not locate *any* coal seam gas production wells within 10 kilometres of the centre of [Linc]." And that the government MAY require Arrow to model and present their findings in relation to their CSG impacts on groundwater contamination from the Linc site.

The 10km zone includes:

- majority of PL253
- some of neighbouring PLs from other gas companies who ALREADY have CSG wells in place WITHOUT these conditions
- And half of PL 493

This raises questions for the government to answer and information to be provided directly to the affected landholders (arguably all those impacted by these two PLs) and that should be considered in assessing this RIDA application.

- Why is a 10km exclusion zone in place, why not 20km for example?
- Why are the 6 wells in the EA for PL253 allowed when EA for PL493 explicitly prevents them?
- Provide the affected landholders and in the RIDA the risk assessment that created the 10km CSG Production well exclusion zone.
- Provide the affected landholders, the public and the RIDA assessment officers with the testing results from the Linc contamination (eg copies of reports on the status of the contamination specifically groundwater monitoring network on the Linc site, and the characterisation of Linc's underground coal gasification cavities). It is now in the public interest as it impacts on the EA and landholders should be able to require testing of their water bores (and overland flow due to the presence of a surface water creek on the site) and land in accordance with the findings.
- Provide the affected landholders and the RIDA assessment officers the testing from the other CSG company's impact on the groundwater contamination given they have wells inside the 10km exclusion zone without these conditions
- Provide the affected landholders and the RIDA assessment officers with a copy of the 2018 Arrow modelling and assessment of their activities in relation to the contamination detailed in the EA.

3. Application does not meet Required Outcome 1 and Interaction between Arrow proposal and Linc contamination site is inappropriate and dangerous – RIDA application should not be approved

Which brings us to the Arrow RIDA application for 2 groundwater monitoring bores to be placed on property owned by Arrow within PL 253, right next to the Linc contamination source site.

- Nowhere in their application do they mention the need to have the monitoring bores in place as a result of the requirements of their EA (conflicting as they may be).
- Nowhere is the Linc contamination source Site discussed, only a reference to the lot and plan number of the property is made.
- Nowhere is there an assessment of what putting the monitoring bores in will do to the contamination (Linc's own water monitoring bores have been proven to be a pathway for the contamination).
- Nowhere in the application is the supposed 2018 Arrow modelling and assessment document required by the EA referred to.
- No further impact of their activities is assessed due to the ridiculously circuitous and useless loophole in the legislation and application process that allows them to assert they INTEND to

get CCAs with landholders (who are not yet identified and will therefore have no ability to influence this application decision, when the reality is the potential to mobilise and make worse the contamination from Linc is a very real issue that should be a very overt and transparent assessment process in an attempt to protect priority agricultural land)

- Section 1.4 in the Arrow application states that they have safely and sustainably produced CSG, this statement is unfounded and not proven. It has the effect of influencing the assessment without any actual data to prove it.
- Section 1.5 again makes unfounded assertions and absolutely lacks any feedback from those supposedly “coexisted” with. It makes the application process circuitous and self-fulfilling.
- Section 1.6 discusses area wide planning that has not been undertaken and again is an example of the useless circuitous process whereby the impacted landholders are not represented or consulted until after the fact. In this specific application, the the specific consultation and technical details with which they refer in the last paragraph in this section is absurd and further highlights the tick and flick process of the assessment as it refers to them having undertaken this consultation and a CCA process with themselves, Arrow are both the landholder and the applicant.
- Section 2.1 their description of the works assiduously avoids openly and transparently describing the very specific reason for the groundwater monitoring program – the Linc contamination, therefore any impact of the contamination is not taken into consideration in the assessment of the application.
- It does not give any discussion or evidence as to how Arrow have previously assessed that this activity will not impact or exacerbate the existing Linc contamination nor how it will into the future and therefore in assessing the RIDA, none of that will be considered. The application fails to identify the need for baseline testing prior to undertaking the activity to identify any further interaction with the contamination to the soil, underground water and surface water etc.
- Section 2.3.2 describes the CSG activities in primacy and fails to recognise the original and more important primary use of the land limiting the adequate assessment of the application.
- Section 2.4 fails to indicate the important interactions with PL 493 and subsequent EA conditions with this PL and EA limiting the meaningful assessment of the application.
- Section 3.1.3 asserts that PALU does not apply to the property because the property has not been use for PALU for at least 3 of the previous 10 years. This is an inaccurate representation because for 5 of the last 10 years Arrow themselves have owned the property, and by the nature of their business PALU is not their core activity and therefore not their interest. This again prevents a true assessment of the application (which in itself is an additional problem with the legislation, because the significant purchasing of land in the area by the CSG industry means that the original priority use of the land and the intent of the legislation is skewed due to the encroachment of the industry and lack of representation of the farmers in the process). The framing of this criteria means that the resource sector can simply buy up all of our prime agricultural land and sit on it without using it as PALU – avoiding this criteria and destroying our agricultural land. This is an unacceptable outcome for Queensland’s precious agricultural land.
- The application fails to identify the how the impact of the chain of responsibility amendments will influence their activities

- The maps, EAs, PL, land parcels and descriptions rely on surface land parcels and boundaries but do not acknowledge that the source of the contamination is underground and does not show that underground source in relation to the proposed groundwater monitoring or other CSG activities therefore this cannot be a reasonable assessment.

Submission Regarding Arrow Energy RIDA Application #RPI19-002

I fully agree with the following evidence based arguments by [REDACTED] I endorse and support her submission and adopt it as my own. This proposal is ill-conceived, inappropriate and dangerous, putting at significant risk the health and well-being of the local community. In light of the pre-existing environmental harm resultant from Linc's activities the proposal to drill further CSG wells is little short of negligent. The risk to groundwater, prime agricultural land and intergenerational equity is just too great.

I submit that Arrow Energy RIDA Application #RPI19-002 RIDA be denied.

I further submit that the entire PL 253, PL493 and PL185 be removed permanently and further resource activity is banned.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

20th May 2019

The RPI Act is one of the few opportunities that landholders have to contribute to and scrutinise the decisions that the government makes in relation to the unconventional gas industry.

The RPI Act is described as seeking to strike a balance between protecting priority land uses and managing the impacts of (and supporting coexistence with) mining and petroleum activities.

The first part of that statement is the pivotal part. The government has been giving the unconventional gas industry primacy over agriculture from the start of the industry. This is the perfect example where due to unprecedented access, poor oversight and non-existent transparency the government and the industry use a tick and flick approach to permitting gas activities leaving the landholder completely unrepresented and in the dark.

In this case, the Linc Energy Contamination is at the heart of the issue.

I submit that the RIDA application referred to above be denied on the grounds that it is not a true, detailed or transparent application that allows a reasonable assessment to determine if the activity will threaten priority agricultural land, nor if adequate controls will be in place to manage the impact of the proposed activities.

In addition, I submit based on the evidence provided in this submission, that the entire PL 253, PL493 and PL185 be removed permanently and the areas be restricted to the existing priority use of the land, agriculture and that the current contamination impacts and potential for exacerbation which may be widespread and irreversible be the reason further resource activity is banned.

Please see attached the details supporting my submission.

Relevant documents to this submission

1. RPI Act Statutory Guideline 02/14 (D17/138774 RPI Act Statutory Guideline 02/14)
<https://dsdmipprd.blob.core.windows.net/general/rpi-guideline-02-14-carrying-out-activities-in-a-paa.pdf>
2. -Arrow RIDA for monitoring wells
<https://planning.dsdmip.qld.gov.au/planning/regional-planning-interests-act/rpi-act-applications-submissions-and-decision-notice>
3. Click on RPI19/002/Wyalla (in particular, the Report and Annexure, linked below)
<https://dsdmipprd.blob.core.windows.net/general/rpi-19-002-report-and-annexures.pdf>
4. Arrow EA for the PL 253
<https://apps.des.qld.gov.au/env-authorities/pdf/ea0001401.pdf>
5. Arrow EA for the PL 493
<https://apps.des.qld.gov.au/env-authorities/pdf/ea0001613.pdf>
6. Maps showing relevant properties and area described

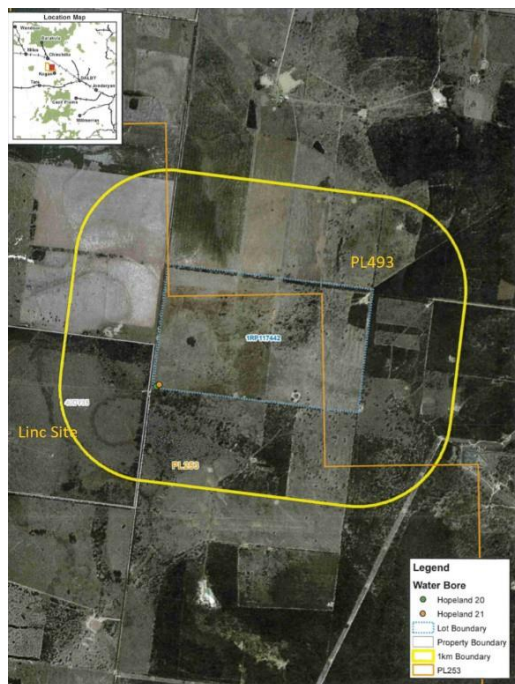


Figure 1 Map showing the information missing from the RIDA, location of the Linc site and the Petroleum leases

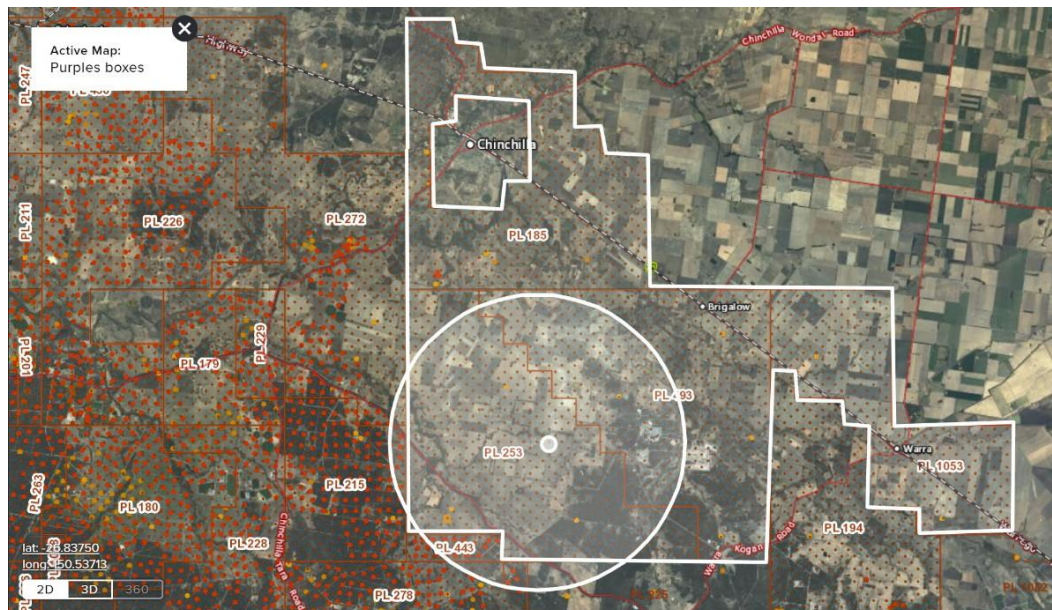


Figure 2 Map showing the impacted areas, Linc Site, Petroleum leases and the 10km Linc exclusion zone from the EA

Details of submission in relation to the specific elements outlined in the RTI Act Statutory Guidelines 02/14 - Carrying out resource activities in a priority agricultural area

1. Piecemeal approach of application avoids full proper assessment of impacts under RPI Act

The first problem with this RIDA is the piecemeal approach that the legislation allows for the industry to approach their approvals that means they are able to subjugate the assessment requirements to suit themselves.

This particular RIDA application is for activities that are in fact a small part of a much larger project across the impacted area. However due to the piecemeal approach they are able to classify this RIDA as only needing to address the Required Outcome 1.

This leaves the issues associated with Required outcome 2 outlined in Table 3 in the guideline out of the assessment process. However these are critical to a proper assessment of the activity as a whole, particularly the prescribed solutions relating to irreversible contamination, OGIA consultation, potentially constraining or restriction of the ongoing use of the area.

That is as per Required Outcome 2, we submit that the activity will result in a material impact on the region because of the activity's impact on the use of land in the PAA for 1 or more PALUs.

Therefore this assessment is unable to identify the significant issues and prescribed solutions identified in Table 3 of the guide and they are in fact critical to the issue at hand.

2. Inadequate information has been provided by the applicant to allow full assessment

This RIDA application does not detail important information to enable appropriate assessment of the application. The information that is missing is detailed below and is relevant to the prescribed solutions outlined in Table 1 & 2.

The Application fails to identify that the RIDA application is in fact part of the larger activities outlined below.

- The EA for PL 253 permits 6 CSG wells, 20 groundwater monitoring wells, 2 sediment ponds and a regulated CSG Water Dam.
- The EA also places significant conditions on Arrow to (by October 2018) monitor EXISTING contamination from the Linc contamination source site to groundwater, and detail a program whereby they will assess the impact of their activities on the existing contamination, 'model' their impact, monitor the existing contamination and advise the government if they detect early indications that their activities have caused a change in the contamination of the groundwater. Which given the experience of landholders impacted by the Linc contamination, this will be too little too late.
- Meanwhile the EA for the neighbouring PL 493 and PL 185 is DIFFERENT to the EA for the neighbouring PL 253. It prescribes that Arrows activities "not directly or indirectly influence the mobilisation of existing groundwater contamination on [Linc]." That Arrow "must not locate *any* coal seam gas production wells within 10 kilometres of the centre of [Linc]." And that the government MAY require Arrow to model and present their findings in relation to their CSG impacts on groundwater contamination from the Linc site.

The 10km zone includes:

- All of PL253
- some of neighbouring PLs from other gas companies who ALREADY have CSG wells in place WITHOUT these conditions
- And half of PL 493

This raises questions for the government to answer and information to be provided directly to the affected landholders (arguably all those impacted by these two PLs) and that should be considered in assessing this RIDA application.

- Why is a 10km exclusion zone in place, why not 20km for example?
- Why are the 6 wells in the EA for PL253 allowed when EA for PL493 explicitly prevents them?
- Provide the affected landholders and in the RIDA the risk assessment that created the 10km CSG Production well exclusion zone.
- Provide the affected landholders, the public and the RIDA assessment officers with the testing results from the Linc contamination (eg copies of reports on the status of the contamination specifically groundwater monitoring network on the Linc site, and the characterisation of Linc's underground coal gasification cavities). It is now in the public interest as it impacts on the EA and landholders should be able to require testing of their water bores (and overland flow due to the presence of a surface water creek on the site) and land in accordance with the findings.
- Provide the affected landholders and the RIDA assessment officers the testing from the other CSG company's impact on the groundwater contamination given they have wells inside the 10km exclusion zone without these conditions
- Provide the affected landholders and the RIDA assessment officers with a copy of the 2018 Arrow modelling and assessment of their activities in relation to the contamination detailed in the EA.

3. Application does not meet Required Outcome 1 and Interaction between Arrow proposal and Linc contamination site is inappropriate and dangerous – RIDA application should not be approved

Which brings us to the Arrow RIDA application for 2 groundwater monitoring bores to be placed on property owned by Arrow within PL 253, right next to the Linc contamination source site.

- Nowhere in their application do they mention the need to have the monitoring bores in place as a result of the requirements of their EA (conflicting as they may be).
- Nowhere is the Linc contamination source Site discussed, only a reference to the lot and plan number of the property is made.
- Nowhere is there an assessment of what putting the monitoring bores in will do to the contamination (Linc's own water monitoring bores have been proven to be a pathway for the contamination).
- Nowhere in the application is the supposed 2018 Arrow modelling and assessment document required by the EA referred to.
- No further impact of their activities is assessed due to the ridiculously circuitous and useless loophole in the legislation and application process that allows them to assert they INTEND to get CCAs with landholders (who are not yet identified and will therefore have no ability to influence this application decision, when the reality is the potential to mobilise and make worse the contamination from Linc is a very real issue that should be a very overt and transparent assessment process in an attempt to protect priority agricultural land)
- Section 1.4 in the Arrow application states that they have safely and sustainably produced CSG, this statement is unfounded and not proven. It has the effect of influencing the assessment without any actual data to prove it.
- Section 1.5 again makes unfounded assertions and absolutely lacks any feedback from those supposedly "coexisted" with. It makes the application process circuitous and self-fulfilling.
- Section 1.6 discusses area wide planning that has not been undertaken and again is an example of the useless circuitous process whereby the impacted landholders are not represented or consulted until after the fact. In this specific application, the specific consultation and technical details with which they refer in the last paragraph in this section is absurd and further highlights the tick and flick process of the assessment as it refers to them having undertaken this consultation and a CCA process with themselves, Arrow are both the landholder and the applicant.
- Section 2.1 their description of the works assiduously avoids openly and transparently describing the very specific reason for the groundwater monitoring program – the Linc contamination, therefore any impact of the contamination is not taken into consideration in the assessment of the application.
- It does not give any discussion or evidence as to how Arrow have previously assessed that this activity will not impact or exacerbate the existing Linc contamination nor how it will into the future and therefore in assessing the RIDA, none of that will be considered. The application fails to identify the need for baseline testing prior to undertaking the activity to identify any further interaction with the contamination to the soil, surface water etc.
- Section 2.3.2 describes the CSG activities in primacy and fails to recognise the original and more important primary use of the land limiting the adequate assessment of the application.
- Section 2.4 fails to indicate the important interactions with PL 493 and subsequent EA conditions with this PL and EA limiting the meaningful assessment of the application.
- Section 3.1.3 asserts that PALU does not apply to the property because the property has not been use for PALU for at least 3 of the previous 10 years. This is an inaccurate representation because for 5 of the last 10 years Arrow themselves have owned the

property, and by the nature of their business PALU is not their core activity and therefore not their interest. This again prevents a true assessment of the application (which in itself is an additional problem with the legislation, because the significant purchasing of land in the area by the CSG industry means that the original priority use of the land and the intent of the legislation is skewed due to the encroachment of the industry and lack of representation of the farmers in the process). The framing of this criteria means that the resource sector can simply buy up all of our prime agricultural land and sit on it without using it as PALU – avoiding this criteria and destroying our agricultural land. This is an unacceptable outcome for Queensland's precious agricultural land.

- The application fails to identify the how the impact of the chain of responsibility amendments will influence their activities
- The maps, EAs, PL, land parcels and descriptions rely on surface land parcels and boundaries but do not acknowledge that the source of the contamination is underground and does not show that underground source in relation to the proposed groundwater monitoring or other CSG activities therefore this cannot be a reasonable assessment.

“Submission #5”

**[REDACTED] Submission to the
Department of State Development,
Manufacturing, Infrastructure & Planning on
Arrow Energy’s Application RPI 19-002.**

Submitter: [REDACTED]

Submitted by email to: The assessor at:

RPI Act Development Assessment Team,
Department of State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure
& Planning,
P O Box 15009,
City East. Qld. 4002.

Email: RPIAct@dsdmip.qld.gov.au

Submitter’s Contact Details: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

████████████████████ Submission to the Department of State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure & Planning on Arrow Energy's Application RPI 19-002.

What is the ██████████

████████████████████ to represent the interests and concerns of landholders and rural communities who were being subjected to the unprecedented scale and pace of Coal Seam Gas development in South-West Queensland.

████████████████████ advocate for the sustainable use and management of land and water resources in the Condamine Basin for future generations – in particular highlighting the risk that the Coal Seam Gas development poses to the Great Artesian Basin.

████████████████████ is comprised of farmers, graziers, business people and townspeople in south-western Queensland's Condamine Basin, as well as scientists who have a strong interest in supporting ██████████ "key focus".

██████████ is grateful for the opportunity to submit to the Department of State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning on the application by Arrow Energy (Application No. RPI 19-002) for a Regional Interests Development Approval (RIDA) on prime agricultural land identified under the Regional Planning Interests Act as Strategic Cropping Area – Priority Agricultural Area and being located on "Wyalla property" 16 Mile Haul Road, Hopeland. Qld.

Our Submission addresses a range of issues with Arrow Energy's RIDA application including that:

- the exclusion of landholders from this decision making process is unacceptable
- the taking of further risks with the Linc Energy contamination is not acceptable
- the use of inconsistent and non-transparent decision making that impacts on agricultural businesses is unacceptable
- the removal of the 3 Petroleum Leases that are affected by this application is the most appropriate way to protect priority agricultural land in the Hopeland's District.

2. [REDACTED] Recommendation on Application No. RPI 19-002:

[REDACTED] recommends that Arrow Energy's RIDA Application No. RPI 19-002 should be denied on the grounds that:

- it is not a true, detailed or transparent application that allows for a reasonable assessment to effectively determine if the activity will threaten Priority Agricultural Land,
- nor does the application confirm if adequate controls will be put in place by the Queensland Government to manage the impact of the proposed activities on agricultural enterprises in the Hopeland's District.

In addition, [REDACTED] also recommends that based on the evidence provided in this submission:

- the entire area covered by Petroleum Lease 253, Petroleum Lease 493 and Petroleum Lease 185 should be permanently removed from Coal Seam Gas development and these areas be restricted to the existing priority land use of agricultural activities; and
- the current contamination impacts from the Linc Energy debacle, as well as potential for its exacerbation, which may be widespread and irreversible, be the prime reason for further resource activity to be banned in the Hopeland's District.
- on the basis of "reasonable doubt and lack of scientific evidence" of how the current Linc Energy contaminated site can be effectively managed to limit further contamination to the groundwater aquifers in the Hopeland's District – the Ecologically Sustainable Development "precautionary principle" should be applied and the Arrow Energy's RIDA application should be refused forthwith.

3. [REDACTED] Grounds for its position on Arrow Energy's Application:

3.1 The Complicity of the Queensland Government in Sustainable Resource Management:

[REDACTED] contends that the Regional Planning Interests Act (RPI) is one of the few opportunities offered by the Queensland Government for landholders to be able to contribute to and scrutinise the decisions that government makes in relation to the unconventional gas industry and its impacts on sustainable resource management. The RPI is described as seeking to strike a balance between protecting priority land uses and managing the impacts of (and supporting coexistence with) mining and petroleum activities.

The first part of that RPI statement is the pivotal part of this Submission. For the last decade, the Queensland Government has been giving the unconventional gas industry inequitable priority in

its decisions at the expense of agriculture. This application by Arrow Energy is another perfect example where due to unprecedented access, poor oversight and non-existent transparency, the Queensland Government and the Petroleum & Gas industry use a tick and flick approach to permitting gas activities, thus leaving the landholder completely unrepresented and powerless to protect their interests.

In this application by Arrow Energy, the Linc Energy Contamination debacle and Queensland Government's complicity in encouraging this development and its subsequent mismanagement, is at the heart of the issue.

The Queensland Government has failed to be open and transparent with the community about the results of testing and details regarding the extent of the Linc Energy contamination (including hiding behind privacy claims to prevent the disclosure of test results that are actually in the public interest). The Queensland Government has sought to have the entire Linc Energy issue and its complicity subside into obscurity through obfuscation.

Now the Queensland Government has had the audacity to announce a \$10.8 billion project for the Arrow Energy expansion project with absolutely no discussion or transparency over the fact that much of that area is already mapped as a Priority Agricultural Area under the RPI Act provisions. Just like the Condamine alluvial soils around Cecil Plains and Dalby – soils on Wyalla and neighbouring properties in the Hopeland's District, are recognised as some of the best farming land in Australia and they should not be compromised by the expansion of the Unconventional Gas Industry.

The Queensland Government continues to promote a policy of "coexistence" between agriculture and the Unconventional Gas Industry as the panacea to the unsustainable impacts of an expanding gas industry. The APPEA promotes the \$387mill compensation paid to landholders in Queensland (as of 30 June, 2017) as the panacea to addressing the impacts of the gas industry on landholder's operations. [REDACTED] contends that the Queensland Government's coexistence policy is a total myth and political spin of the worst kind. It also contends that no amount of compensation paid by the Unconventional Gas Industry will remediate the irreversible damage the gas industry is doing to Queensland's underground water resources.

3.2 Details of the [REDACTED] submission in relation to the specific elements outlined in the RPI Act Statutory Guidelines 02/14 - Carrying out resource activities in a priority agricultural area:

The [REDACTED] specific concerns regarding Petroleum Lease 253 and Petroleum Lease 493, in the immediate vicinity of the Linc Energy contamination source include.

3.2.1. The piecemeal approach of Arrow Energy's RIDA application avoids full & proper assessment of its impacts under the RPI Act:

The first significant issue with this RIDA application is the piecemeal approach that the RPI Act allows for the Resources industry to approach their approvals that allows them to subjugate the assessment requirements to suit themselves.

This particular RIDA application by Arrow Energy is for activities that are in fact a small part of a much larger project across the impacted area. However due to the piecemeal approach they are able to classify this RIDA application as only needing to address the "Required Outcome 1".

This means the issues associated with "Required outcome 2" outlined in Table 3 in the guideline are able to be excluded from the assessment process. However these are critical to a proper assessment of the "proposed activity" as a whole, particularly the prescribed solutions relating to irreversible contamination, OGIA consultation and the potential constraints or restrictions of the ongoing use of the area.

In accordance with the provisions of "Required Outcome 2", we submit that Arrow Energy's proposed activity will result in a material impact on the region because of the activity's impact on the use of land in the PAA for 1 or more PALUs.

Therefore this assessment is unable to identify the significant issues and prescribed solutions identified in Table 3 of the guideline and they are in fact critical to the effective assessment of Arrow Energy's RIDA application.

3.2.2. Inadequate information has been provided by the applicant to allow full assessment:

██████████ contends that Arrow Energy's RIDA application does not include all important information to enable an appropriate assessment of the application. The information that is missing is detailed below and is relevant to the prescribed solutions outlined in Tables 1 & 2 of the RPI Act Statutory Guidelines 02/14.

The Application fails to identify that Arrow Energy's RIDA application for Wyalla property is in fact part of a larger scope of activities as outlined below.

- The Environmental Authority for Petroleum Lease 253 permits 6 X CSG wells, 20 X groundwater monitoring wells, 2 X sediment ponds and a regulated CSG Water Dam.
- The Environmental Authority also places significant conditions on Arrow to (by October 2018) monitor EXISTING contamination from the Linc Energy contamination source site to groundwater, and detail a program whereby Arrow Energy will assess the impact of their activities on the existing contamination, 'model' their impact, monitor the existing contamination and advise the Queensland Government if they detect early indications that their activities have caused a change in the contamination of the groundwater. This reliance by the Queensland Government on a "self-monitoring and self-reporting approach" by Arrow Energy, given the direct experience of landholders impacted by the Linc Energy contamination, will be too little too late. The bottom line is - the Community and ██████████

just do not trust the Queensland Government to do the right thing by the natural resources or the landholders.

- notes that the Environmental Authority for the neighbouring Petroleum Lease 493 and Petroleum Lease 185 is DIFFERENT to the Environmental Authority for the neighbouring Petroleum Lease 253. It prescribes that Arrow Energy's activities "not directly or indirectly influence the mobilisation of existing groundwater contamination on (Linc)." That Arrow Energy "must not locate *any* coal seam gas production wells within 10 kilometres of the centre of (Linc)." And that the Queensland Government MAY require Arrow Energy to model and present their findings in relation to their CSG impacts on ground water contamination from the Linc Energy site.

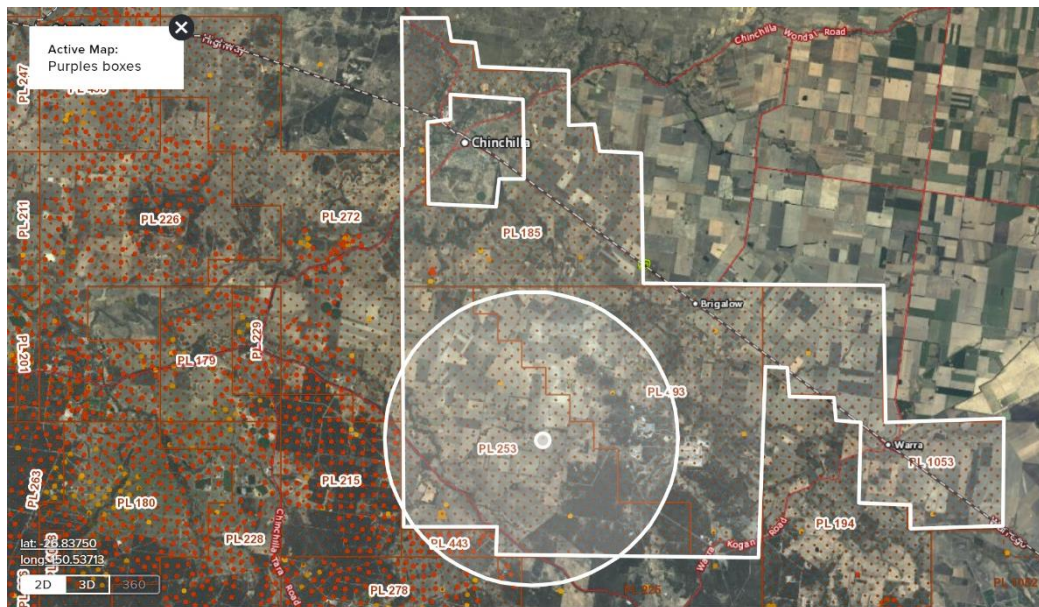


Figure 1: Map showing the impacted areas, Linc Energy's Site, Petroleum Leases and the 10km Linc Energy exclusion zone from the Environmental Authority.

Figure 1 above shows that the 10km exclusion zone includes:

- All of the spatial area within PL253
- Some of the spatial area of neighbouring PLs (from other CSG companies) who ALREADY have CSG wells in place WITHOUT these conditions
- And approximately half of the spatial area of PL 493

contends that this raises a number of questions for the Queensland Government to answer directly to the affected landholders (arguably all those impacted by these two Petroleum Leases) before proceeding with the assessment of Arrow Energy's RIDA application – these include:

- What is the scientific basis for a 10km zone exclusion zone around the Linc Energy site to be in place, why not a 20km exclusion zone for example?

- What is the scientific basis for the 6 X gas wells in the Environmental Authority for Petroleum Lease 253 (which is within the 10km exclusion zone) being allowed? Is this a recognition of contaminated free gas moving up dip due to dewatering/depressurisation through CSG activities?
- Why hasn't the Queensland Government provided the affected landholders the risk assessment that created the 10km CSG well exclusion zone?
- Why hasn't the Queensland Government provided the affected landholders and the RIDA assessment officers the testing results from the Linc Energy contamination debacle. [REDACTED] contends that the release of these results is now in the public interest as it impacts on the Arrow Energy Environmental Authority (eg copies of reports on the status of the contamination specifically groundwater monitoring network on the Linc site, and the characterisation of Linc Energy's underground coal gasification cavities) and landholders should be able to require testing of their water bores (and overland flow due to the presence of a surface water creek on the site) in accordance with the test findings.
- Why hasn't the Queensland Government provided the affected landholders and the RIDA assessment officers the testing from the other CSG company's impact on the groundwater contamination.
- Why hasn't the Queensland Government provided the affected landholders and the RIDA assessment officers a copy of the 2018 Arrow Energy hydrology modelling and the assessment of their activities in relation to the contamination detailed in the Environmental Authority. [REDACTED] submits that this information should be made public and be subject to independent professional scrutiny.

3.2.3. Arrow Energy's application does not meet Required Outcome 1 and the Interaction between Arrow Energy's proposal and Linc Energy's contamination site is inappropriate and dangerous – RIDA application should not be approved

[REDACTED] also notes with some significant concern the following matters:

- Why is the Queensland Government proposing to allow Arrow Energy to construct 2 X groundwater monitoring bores on property owned by Arrow within Petroleum Lease 253, right next to the Linc Contamination source site?
- In regard to the 2 X proposed groundwater monitoring bores the [REDACTED] notes:
 - nowhere in their application does Arrow Energy mention the need to have the monitoring bores in place as a result of the requirements of their Environmental Authority (conflicting as they may be).
 - nowhere is the Linc Energy contamination source site discussed, only a reference to the lot and plan number of the property is made.

- nowhere is there an assessment of what impacts the constructing of these 2 X monitoring bores will do to the potential spread of contamination (Linc's own water monitoring bores have been proven to be a pathway for the contamination).
- nowhere in the Arrow Energy RIDA application is the supposed 2018 Arrow Energy modelling and assessment document required by the Environmental Authority referred to.
- no further impact of Arrow Energy's activities is assessed due to the ridiculously circuitous and useless loophole in the legislation and application process that allows Arrow Energy to assert they INTEND to secure CCAs with impacted landholders (who are not yet identified and will therefore have no ability to influence this application decision, when the reality is the potential to mobilise and make worse the contamination from the Linc Energy site is a very real issue that should be a very overt and transparent assessment process in an attempt to protect priority agricultural land). [REDACTED] notes that landholders on priority agricultural land between Cecil Plains and Dalby have refused to negotiate with Arrow Energy on CCA's.
- Section 1.4 in the Arrow Energy application states that they have safely and sustainably produced CSG, this statement is unfounded and not proven. It has the effect of influencing the assessment without any actual data being provided to prove it.
- Section 1.5 again makes unfounded assertions and absolutely lacks any feedback from those landholders who have supposedly "coexisted" with the Unconventional Gas Industry. It makes the application process circuitous and self-fulfilling. As [REDACTED] [REDACTED] has already highlighted in this Submission – the notion of "coexistence" is a total fraud perpetuated by the Queensland Government and the Petroleum & Gas industry.
- Section 1.6 discusses area wide planning that has not been undertaken and again is an example of the useless circuitous process whereby the impacted landholders are not represented or consulted with, until after the fact. In this specific application by Arrow Energy, the specific consultation and technical details with which they refer to in the last paragraph in this section, is absurd and further highlights the tick and flick process of the Queensland Government's assessment process. As this paragraph refers to Arrow Energy having undertaken this consultation and a CCA process with themselves, when Arrow are both the landholder and the applicant. [REDACTED] contends this is not within the "intent" of the legislation and it will refer this matter to the Qld Audit Office which is currently undertaking a review of the CSG industry.
- Section 2.1 which outlines Arrow Energy's description of the works, assiduously avoids an open and transparent description of the very specific reason for the groundwater monitoring program – the Linc Energy contamination, therefore any impact of the contamination is not taken into consideration in the assessment of the application. This Section does not give any discussion or evidence as to how Arrow Energy has previously assessed that this activity will not impact or exacerbate the existing Linc Energy contamination, nor how it will into the future and therefore in assessing the RIDA, none of that will be considered. The application fails to identify the need for baseline testing prior to undertaking the activity to identify any further interaction with the contamination to the soil, surface water etc.

- While Section 2.3.2 describes the CSG activities in primacy, it fails to recognise that the original and more important primary use of the land is for agriculture and hence it limits an adequate and effective assessment of the application.
- Section 2.4 fails to indicate the important interactions with PL 493 and the subsequent Environmental Authority conditions with this PL and the Environmental Authority limiting the meaningful assessment of the application.
- Section 3.1.3 asserts that “*priority agricultural land use*” (PALU) does not apply to the property because the property has not been used for PALU for at least 3 of the previous 10 years. This is an inaccurate representation of the facts because for 5 of the last 10 years - Arrow Energy themselves have owned the property, and by the nature of their business, PALU is not their core activity and therefore not an interest to them. This again prevents a true assessment of the application (which in itself is an additional problem with the legislation. The significant purchasing of land in the area by the CSG industry means that the original priority use of the land and the intent of the legislation is skewed by the encroachment of the CSG industry and the lack of farmer representation in the process). The framing of this criteria means that the resource sector can simply buy up all of our prime agricultural land and sit on it without using it as PALU – thus avoiding this criteria and destroying our agricultural land. This is an unacceptable outcome for Queensland’s precious agricultural land.
- The application fails to identify the how the impact of the “chain of responsibility amendments” will influence Arrow Energy’s activities.
- The maps, Environmental Authorities, Petroleum Leases, land parcels and real property descriptions, rely on surface land parcels and boundaries but do not acknowledge that the source of the groundwater contamination is underground. The application does not show that underground contamination source in relation to the proposed groundwater monitoring or other CSG activities, therefore this cannot be a reasonable assessment.
- Finally – the 2019 OGIA UWIR is now scheduled for release and [REDACTED] is asking the question on whether OGIA has been consulted and if so – what is OGIA’s views in respect to the potential to activate the Linc Energy contamination through Arrow Energy’s proposed development. If the views of OGIA haven’t been sought – then [REDACTED] requests that they are. Regrettably [REDACTED] doesn’t have the financial resources available to engage a hydrogeologist to provide an independent assessment of the potential impacts of Arrow Energy’s proposed unconventional gas development. [REDACTED] has had to rely on the probity of the Queensland Government to take a “precautionary approach” to dealing with the impacts of the Unconventional Gas Industry and unfortunately it has been badly let down by the “politics of gas for the eastern seaboard”.

4. Conclusion:

The Arrow Energy RIDA application is another small microsm of the much larger challenges agriculture is facing in the Western Downs. The Unconventional gas industry is doing unmitigated damage to the viability of agriculture and the sustainability of the Great Artesian basin. [REDACTED] has been highlighting these impacts in a number of Submissions to both the Queensland and Commonwealth Governments over the last 9 years – regrettably to no avail.

On the basis of the material facts included in this Submission, [REDACTED] submits:

- a) that the Arrow Energy RIDA application referred to above be refused on the grounds that it is not a true, detailed or transparent application that allows a reasonable assessment to determine if the activity will threaten priority agricultural land, nor if adequate controls will be in place to manage the impact of the proposed activities.
- b) based on the evidence provided in this submission, that the entire Petroleum Lease 253, Petroleum Lease 493 and Petroleum Lease 185 be removed permanently and the areas be restricted to the existing priority land use of agriculture and that the current contamination impacts and potential for exacerbation which may be widespread and irreversible be the reason further resource activity is banned.
- c) On the basis of “reasonable doubt and lack of scientific evidence” of how the current Linc Energy contaminated site can be effectively managed to limit further contamination to the groundwater aquifers in the Hopeland’s District – the Ecologically Sustainable Development “precautionary principle” should be applied and the Arrow Energy’s RIDA application should be refused forthwith.

It is the view of [REDACTED] that all of these matters MUST be effectively considered and addressed in dealing with the refusal of this RIDA application by Arrow Energy.

Signed by,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Relevant documents referred to in this submission include:

1. RPI Act Statutory Guideline 02/14 (D17/138774 RPI Act Statutory Guideline 02/14)
<https://dsdmipprd.blob.core.windows.net/general/rpi-guideline-02-14-carrying-out-activities-in-a-paa.pdf>
2. Arrow Energy's RIDA for monitoring wells
<https://planning.dsdmip.qld.gov.au/planning/regional-planning-interests-act/rpi-act-applications-submissions-and-decision-notice>
3. Click on RPI19/002/Wyalla (in particular, the Report and Annexure, linked below)
<https://dsdmipprd.blob.core.windows.net/general/rpi-19-002-report-and-annexures.pdf>
4. Arrow Environmental Authority for the Petroleum Lease 253
<https://apps.des.qld.gov.au/env-authorities/pdf/ea0001401.pdf>
5. Arrow Environmental Authority for the Petroleum Lease 493
<https://apps.des.qld.gov.au/env-authorities/pdf/ea0001613.pdf>
6. Maps showing relevant properties and the area described

[REDACTED]

“Submission #6”

19/5/2019

Objection made to: RPIAct@dsdmip.qld.gov.au

I am lodging this submission on behalf of [REDACTED]. Due to time constraints in developing our own individual submission this submission supports the submission of [REDACTED] in full. We have added additional comment below.

Objection: Arrow Energy Assessment Application for a Regional Interests Development Approval #RPI19-002

We object to the application referred to above and request that it be denied. It does not appear to an accurate and sufficiently detailed application and it is not clear if the assessment will allow threat to priority agricultural land. It is also unclear what kind of impacts this activity would have and how they would be managed.

Also, we submit based on further evidence provided, that PL 253, PL493 and PL185 be excluded from further resource activity and development and the areas be restricted to the existing priority use of the land, agriculture. The map below shows the Linc contamination area and [REDACTED] believe that the PLs listed above fall within this contamination area? Taking further risks within the Linc contamination area is not acceptable.

Below: Environment department map showing Excavation Caution Zone south of Chinchilla



██████ are concerned that further work below the surface of the Linc Contamination Zone could lead to unexpected and serious environmental consequences (Linc's own water monitoring bores have been proven to be a pathway for the contamination). Further we would assert that this area becomes a no go zone for all coal seam gas activities as a precaution against the spreading of any possible contamination through underground pathways and connectivity that already exists.

Arrow Energy have clearly not been transparent with their documentation, nor have they been transparent with landholders in the area. (As detailed in the ██████ submission.)

We would also like to raise the issue of waste management. The propensity for Release to Land of waste that has not been tested for bacteria and Naturally Occurring Radioactive Materials that are known to be associated with coal seam gas and ordinary drill cuttings is of serious concern. We note that both EA's (0001613 and 0001401) allow for release to land of a significant volume of waste. Have the impacts on agricultural land by this style of waste management been studied in detail by the department?

Has waste management been dealt with in the Arrow application:

<https://dsdmipprd.blob.core.windows.net/general/rpi-19-002-report-and-annexures.pdf>

17 May 2019

"Submission #7"

RPIAct@dsdmip.qld.gov.au

Submission Regarding Arrow Energy RIDA Application #RPI19-002

The RPI Act is one of the few opportunities that landholders have to contribute to and scrutinise the decisions that the government makes in relation to the unconventional gas industry.

The RPI Act is described as seeking to strike a balance between protecting priority land uses and managing the impacts of (and supporting coexistence with) mining and petroleum activities.

The first part of that statement is the pivotal part. The government has been giving the unconventional gas industry primacy over agriculture from the start of the industry. This is the perfect example where due to unprecedented access, poor oversight and non-existent transparency the government and the industry use a tick and flick approach to permitting gas activities leaving the landholder completely unrepresented and in the dark.

In this case, the Linc Energy Contamination is at the heart of the issue.

I submit that the RIDA application referred to above be denied on the grounds that it is not a true, detailed or transparent application that allows a reasonable assessment to determine if the activity will threaten priority agricultural land, nor if adequate controls will be in place to manage the impact of the proposed activities.

In addition, I submit based on the evidence provided in this submission, that the entire PL 253, PL493 and PL185 be removed permanently and the areas be restricted to the existing priority use of the land, agriculture and that the current contamination impacts and potential for exacerbation which may be widespread and irreversible be the reason further resource activity is banned.

Please see attached the details supporting my submission.



Relevant documents to this submission

1. RPI Act Statutory Guideline 02/14 (D17/138774 RPI Act Statutory Guideline 02/14)
<https://dsdmipprd.blob.core.windows.net/general/rpi-guideline-02-14-carrying-out-activities-in-a-paa.pdf>
2. -Arrow RIDA for monitoring wells
<https://planning.dsdmip.qld.gov.au/planning/regional-planning-interests-act/rpi-act-applications-submissions-and-decision-notice>
3. Click on RPI19/002/Wyalla (in particular, the Report and Annexure, linked below)
<https://dsdmipprd.blob.core.windows.net/general/rpi-19-002-report-and-annexures.pdf>
4. Arrow EA for the PL 253
<https://apps.des.qld.gov.au/env-authorities/pdf/ea0001401.pdf>
5. Arrow EA for the PL 493
<https://apps.des.qld.gov.au/env-authorities/pdf/ea0001613.pdf>
6. Maps showing relevant properties and area described

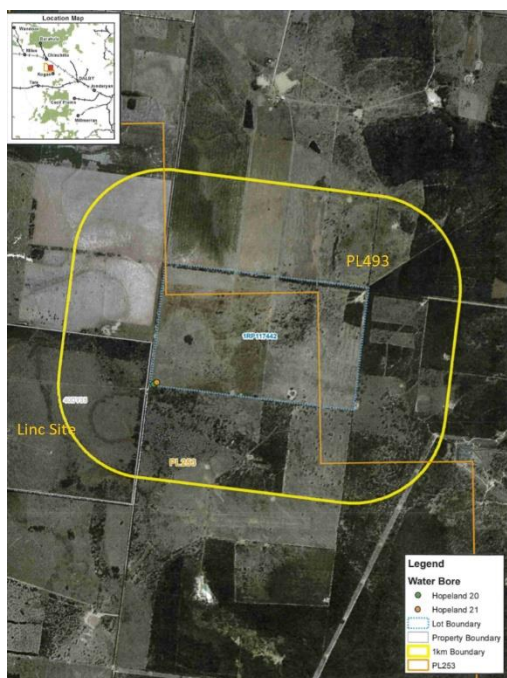


Figure 1 Map showing the information missing from the RIDA, location of the Linc site and the Petroleum leases

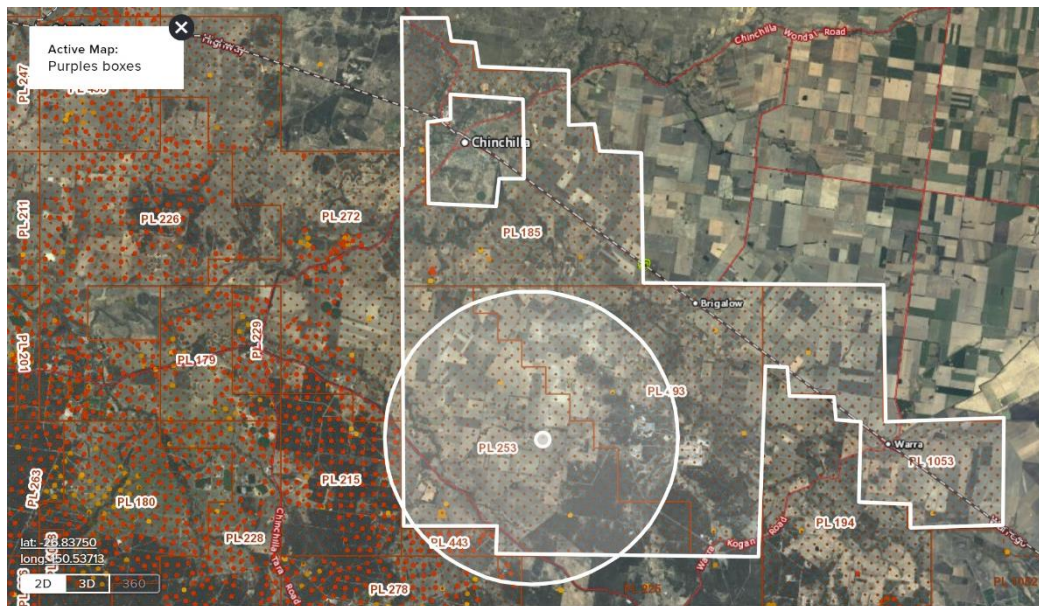


Figure 2 Map showing the impacted areas, Linc Site, Petroleum leases and the 10km Linc exclusion zone from the EA

Details of submission in relation to the specific elements outlined in the RTI Act Statutory Guidelines 02/14 - Carrying out resource activities in a priority agricultural area

1. Piecemeal approach of application avoids full proper assessment of impacts under RPI Act

The first problem with this RIDA is the piecemeal approach that the legislation allows for the industry to approach their approvals that means they are able to subjugate the assessment requirements to suit themselves.

This particular RIDA application is for activities that are in fact a small part of a much larger project across the impacted area. However due to the piecemeal approach they are able to classify this RIDA as only needing to address the Required Outcome 1.

This leaves the issues associated with Required outcome 2 outlined in Table 3 in the guideline out of the assessment process. However these are critical to a proper assessment of the activity as a whole, particularly the prescribed solutions relating to irreversible contamination, OGIA consultation, potentially constraining or restriction of the ongoing use of the area.

That is as per Required Outcome 2, we submit that the activity will result in a material impact on the region because of the activity's impact on the use of land in the PAA for 1 or more PALUs.

Therefore this assessment is unable to identify the significant issues and prescribed solutions identified in Table 3 of the guide and they are in fact critical to the issue at hand.

2. Inadequate information has been provided by the applicant to allow full assessment

This RIDA application does not detail important information to enable appropriate assessment of the application. The information that is missing is detailed below and is relevant to the prescribed solutions outlined in Table 1 & 2.

The Application fails to identify that the RIDA application is in fact part of the larger activities outlined below.

- The EA for PL 253 permits 6 CSG wells, 20 groundwater monitoring wells, 2 sediment ponds and a regulated CSG Water Dam.
- The EA also places significant conditions on Arrow to (by October 2018) monitor EXISTING contamination from the Linc contamination source site to groundwater, and detail a program whereby they will assess the impact of their activities on the existing contamination, 'model' their impact, monitor the existing contamination and advise the government if they detect early indications that their activities have caused a change in the contamination of the groundwater. Which given the experience of landholders impacted by the Linc contamination, this will be too little too late.
- Meanwhile the EA for the neighbouring PL 493 and PL 185 is DIFFERENT to the EA for the neighbouring PL 253. It prescribes that Arrows activities "not directly or indirectly influence the mobilisation of existing groundwater contamination on [Linc]." That Arrow "must not locate *any* coal seam gas production wells within 10 kilometres of the centre of [Linc]." And that the government MAY require Arrow to model and present their findings in relation to their CSG impacts on groundwater contamination from the Linc site.

The 10km zone includes:

- All of PL253
- some of neighbouring PLs from other gas companies who ALREADY have CSG wells in place WITHOUT these conditions
- And half of PL 493

This raises questions for the government to answer and information to be provided directly to the affected landholders (arguably all those impacted by these two PLs) and that should be considered in assessing this RIDA application.

- Why is a 10km exclusion zone in place, why not 20km for example?
- Why are the 6 wells in the EA for PL253 allowed when EA for PL493 explicitly prevents them?
- Provide the affected landholders and in the RIDA the risk assessment that created the 10km CSG Production well exclusion zone.
- Provide the affected landholders, the public and the RIDA assessment officers with the testing results from the Linc contamination (eg copies of reports on the status of the contamination specifically groundwater monitoring network on the Linc site, and the characterisation of Linc's underground coal gasification cavities). It is now in the public interest as it impacts on the EA and landholders should be able to require testing of their water bores (and overland flow due to the presence of a surface water creek on the site) and land in accordance with the findings.
- Provide the affected landholders and the RIDA assessment officers the testing from the other CSG company's impact on the groundwater contamination given they have wells inside the 10km exclusion zone without these conditions
- Provide the affected landholders and the RIDA assessment officers with a copy of the 2018 Arrow modelling and assessment of their activities in relation to the contamination detailed in the EA.

3. Application does not meet Required Outcome 1 and Interaction between Arrow proposal and Linc contamination site is inappropriate and dangerous – RIDA application should not be approved

Which brings us to the Arrow RIDA application for 2 groundwater monitoring bores to be placed on property owned by Arrow within PL 253, right next to the Linc contamination source site.

- Nowhere in their application do they mention the need to have the monitoring bores in place as a result of the requirements of their EA (conflicting as they may be).
- Nowhere is the Linc contamination source Site discussed, only a reference to the lot and plan number of the property is made.
- Nowhere is there an assessment of what putting the monitoring bores in will do to the contamination (Linc's own water monitoring bores have been proven to be a pathway for the contamination).
- Nowhere in the application is the supposed 2018 Arrow modelling and assessment document required by the EA referred to.
- No further impact of their activities is assessed due to the ridiculously circuitous and useless loophole in the legislation and application process that allows them to assert they INTEND to get CCAs with landholders (who are not yet identified and will therefore have no ability to influence this application decision, when the reality is the potential to mobilise and make worse the contamination from Linc is a very real issue that should be a very overt and transparent assessment process in an attempt to protect priority agricultural land)
- Section 1.4 in the Arrow application states that they have safely and sustainably produced CSG, this statement is unfounded and not proven. It has the effect of influencing the assessment without any actual data to prove it.
- Section 1.5 again makes unfounded assertions and absolutely lacks any feedback from those supposedly "coexisted" with. It makes the application process circuitous and self-fulfilling.
- Section 1.6 discusses area wide planning that has not been undertaken and again is an example of the useless circuitous process whereby the impacted landholders are not represented or consulted until after the fact. In this specific application, the the specific consultation and technical details with which they refer in the last paragraph in this section is absurd and further highlights the tick and flick process of the assessment as it refers to them having undertaken this consultation and a CCA process with themselves, Arrow are both the landholder and the applicant.
- Section 2.1 their description of the works assiduously avoids openly and transparently describing the very specific reason for the groundwater monitoring program – the Linc contamination, therefore any impact of the contamination is not taken into consideration in the assessment of the application.
- It does not give any discussion or evidence as to how Arrow have previously assessed that this activity will not impact or exacerbate the existing Linc contamination nor how it will into the future and therefore in assessing the RIDA, none of that will be considered. The application fails to identify the need for baseline testing prior to undertaking the activity to identify any further interaction with the contamination to the soil, surface water etc.
- Section 2.3.2 describes the CSG activities in primacy and fails to recognise the original and more important primary use of the land limiting the adequate assessment of the application.
- Section 2.4 fails to indicate the important interactions with PL 493 and subsequent EA conditions with this PL and EA limiting the meaningful assessment of the application.
- Section 3.1.3 asserts that PALU does not apply to the property because the property has not been use for PALU for at least 3 of the previous 10 years. This is an inaccurate representation because for 5 of the last 10 years Arrow themselves have owned the

property, and by the nature of their business PALU is not their core activity and therefore not their interest. This again prevents a true assessment of the application (which in itself is an additional problem with the legislation, because the significant purchasing of land in the area by the CSG industry means that the original priority use of the land and the intent of the legislation is skewed due to the encroachment of the industry and lack of representation of the farmers in the process). The framing of this criteria means that the resource sector can simply buy up all of our prime agricultural land and sit on it without using it as PALU – avoiding this criteria and destroying our agricultural land. This is an unacceptable outcome for Queensland's precious agricultural land.

- The application fails to identify the how the impact of the chain of responsibility amendments will influence their activities
- The maps, EAs, PL, land parcels and descriptions rely on surface land parcels and boundaries but do not acknowledge that the source of the contamination is underground and does not show that underground source in relation to the proposed groundwater monitoring or other CSG activities therefore this cannot be a reasonable assessment.

4/5/2019

"Submission #8"

RPIAct@dsdmip.qld.gov.au

Submission Regarding Arrow Energy RIDA Application #RPI19-002

The RPI Act is one of the few opportunities that landholders have to contribute to and scrutinise the decisions that the government makes in relation to the unconventional gas industry.

The RPI Act is described as seeking to strike a balance between protecting priority land uses and managing the impacts of (and supporting coexistence with) mining and petroleum activities.

The first part of that statement is the pivotal part. The government has been giving the unconventional gas industry primacy over agriculture from the start of the industry. This is the perfect example where due to unprecedented access, poor oversight and non-existent transparency the government and the industry use a tick and flick approach to permitting gas activities leaving the landholder completely unrepresented and in the dark.

In this case, the Linc Energy Contamination is at the heart of the issue.

I submit that the RIDA application referred to above be denied on the grounds that it is not a true, detailed or transparent application that allows a reasonable assessment to determine if the activity will threaten priority agricultural land, nor if adequate controls will be in place to manage the impact of the proposed activities.

In addition, I submit based on the evidence provided in this submission, that the entire PL 253, PL493 and PL185 be removed permanently and the areas be restricted to the existing priority use of the land, agriculture and that the current contamination impacts and potential for exacerbation which may be widespread and irreversible be the reason further resource activity is banned.

Please see attached the details supporting my submission.



Relevant documents to this submission

1. RPI Act Statutory Guideline 02/14 (D17/138774 RPI Act Statutory Guideline 02/14)
<https://dsdmipprd.blob.core.windows.net/general/rpi-guideline-02-14-carrying-out-activities-in-a-paa.pdf>
2. -Arrow RIDA for monitoring wells
<https://planning.dsdmip.qld.gov.au/planning/regional-planning-interests-act/rpi-act-applications-submissions-and-decision-notice>
3. Click on RPI19/002/Wyalla (in particular, the Report and Annexure, linked below)
<https://dsdmipprd.blob.core.windows.net/general/rpi-19-002-report-and-annexures.pdf>
4. Arrow EA for the PL 253
<https://apps.des.qld.gov.au/env-authorities/pdf/ea0001401.pdf>
5. Arrow EA for the PL 493
<https://apps.des.qld.gov.au/env-authorities/pdf/ea0001613.pdf>
6. Maps showing relevant properties and area described

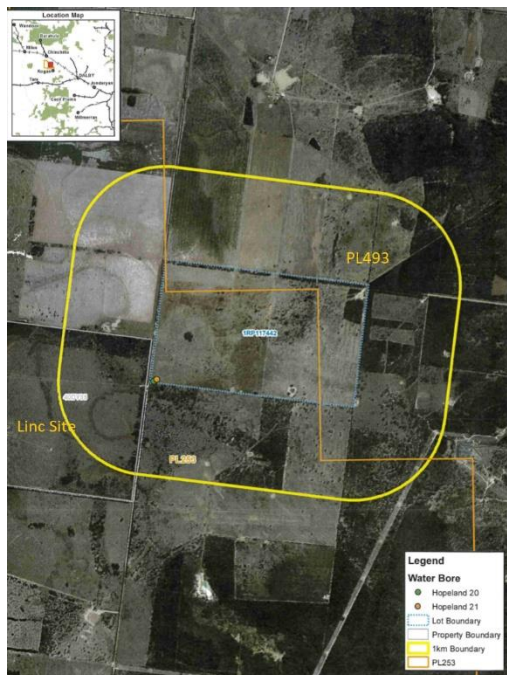


Figure 1 Map showing the information missing from the RIDA, location of the Linc site and the Petroleum leases

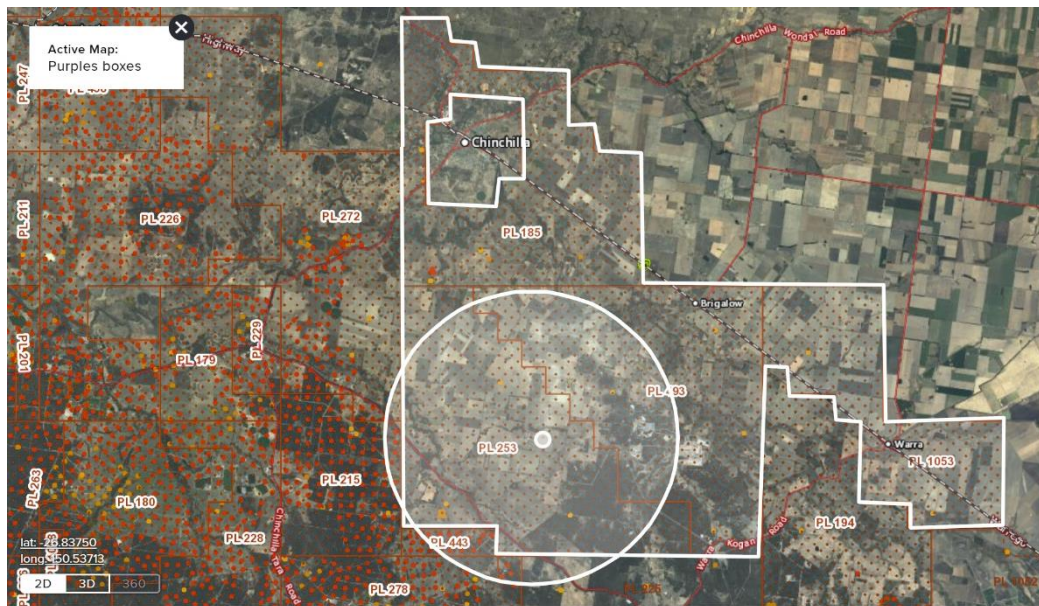


Figure 2Map showing the impacted areas, Linc Site, Petroleum leases and the 10km Linc exclusion zone from the EA

Details of submission in relation to the specific elements outlined in the RTI Act Statutory Guidelines 02/14 - Carrying out resource activities in a priority agricultural area

1. Piecemeal approach of application avoids full proper assessment of impacts under RPI Act

The first problem with this RIDA is the piecemeal approach that the legislation allows for the industry to approach their approvals that means they are able to subjugate the assessment requirements to suit themselves.

This particular RIDA application is for activities that are in fact a small part of a much larger project across the impacted area. However due to the piecemeal approach they are able to classify this RIDA as only needing to address the Required Outcome 1.

This leaves the issues associated with Required outcome 2 outlined in Table 3 in the guideline out of the assessment process. However these are critical to a proper assessment of the activity as a whole, particularly the prescribed solutions relating to irreversible contamination, OGIA consultation, potentially constraining or restriction of the ongoing use of the area.

That is as per Required Outcome 2, we submit that the activity will result in a material impact on the region because of the activity's impact on the use of land in the PAA for 1 or more PALUs.

Therefore this assessment is unable to identify the significant issues and prescribed solutions identified in Table 3 of the guide and they are in fact critical to the issue at hand.

2. Inadequate information has been provided by the applicant to allow full assessment

This RIDA application does not detail important information to enable appropriate assessment of the application. The information that is missing is detailed below and is relevant to the prescribed solutions outlined in Table 1 & 2.

The Application fails to identify that the RIDA application is in fact part of the larger activities outlined below.

- The EA for PL 253 permits 6 CSG wells, 20 groundwater monitoring wells, 2 sediment ponds and a regulated CSG Water Dam.
- The EA also places significant conditions on Arrow to (by October 2018) monitor EXISTING contamination from the Linc contamination source site to groundwater, and detail a program whereby they will assess the impact of their activities on the existing contamination, 'model' their impact, monitor the existing contamination and advise the government if they detect early indications that their activities have caused a change in the contamination of the groundwater. Which given the experience of landholders impacted by the Linc contamination, this will be too little too late.
- Meanwhile the EA for the neighbouring PL 493 and PL 185 is DIFFERENT to the EA for the neighbouring PL 253. It prescribes that Arrows activities "not directly or indirectly influence the mobilisation of existing groundwater contamination on [Linc]." That Arrow "must not locate *any* coal seam gas production wells within 10 kilometres of the centre of [Linc]." And that the government MAY require Arrow to model and present their findings in relation to their CSG impacts on groundwater contamination from the Linc site.

The 10km zone includes:

- All of PL253
- some of neighbouring PLs from other gas companies who ALREADY have CSG wells in place WITHOUT these conditions
- And half of PL 493

This raises questions for the government to answer and information to be provided directly to the affected landholders (arguably all those impacted by these two PLs) and that should be considered in assessing this RIDA application.

- Why is a 10km exclusion zone in place, why not 20km for example?
- Why are the 6 wells in the EA for PL253 allowed when EA for PL493 explicitly prevents them?
- Provide the affected landholders and in the RIDA the risk assessment that created the 10km CSG Production well exclusion zone.
- Provide the affected landholders, the public and the RIDA assessment officers with the testing results from the Linc contamination (eg copies of reports on the status of the contamination specifically groundwater monitoring network on the Linc site, and the characterisation of Linc's underground coal gasification cavities). It is now in the public interest as it impacts on the EA and landholders should be able to require testing of their water bores (and overland flow due to the presence of a surface water creek on the site) and land in accordance with the findings.
- Provide the affected landholders and the RIDA assessment officers the testing from the other CSG company's impact on the groundwater contamination given they have wells inside the 10km exclusion zone without these conditions
- Provide the affected landholders and the RIDA assessment officers with a copy of the 2018 Arrow modelling and assessment of their activities in relation to the contamination detailed in the EA.

3. Application does not meet Required Outcome 1 and Interaction between Arrow proposal and Linc contamination site is inappropriate and dangerous – RIDA application should not be approved

Which brings us to the Arrow RIDA application for 2 groundwater monitoring bores to be placed on property owned by Arrow within PL 253, right next to the Linc contamination source site.

- Nowhere in their application do they mention the need to have the monitoring bores in place as a result of the requirements of their EA (conflicting as they may be).
- Nowhere is the Linc contamination source Site discussed, only a reference to the lot and plan number of the property is made.
- Nowhere is there an assessment of what putting the monitoring bores in will do to the contamination (Linc's own water monitoring bores have been proven to be a pathway for the contamination).
- Nowhere in the application is the supposed 2018 Arrow modelling and assessment document required by the EA referred to.
- No further impact of their activities is assessed due to the ridiculously circuitous and useless loophole in the legislation and application process that allows them to assert they INTEND to get CCAs with landholders (who are not yet identified and will therefore have no ability to influence this application decision, when the reality is the potential to mobilise and make worse the contamination from Linc is a very real issue that should be a very overt and transparent assessment process in an attempt to protect priority agricultural land)
- Section 1.4 in the Arrow application states that they have safely and sustainably produced CSG, this statement is unfounded and not proven. It has the effect of influencing the assessment without any actual data to prove it.
- Section 1.5 again makes unfounded assertions and absolutely lacks any feedback from those supposedly "coexisted" with. It makes the application process circuitous and self-fulfilling.
- Section 1.6 discusses area wide planning that has not been undertaken and again is an example of the useless circuitous process whereby the impacted landholders are not represented or consulted until after the fact. In this specific application, the the specific consultation and technical details with which they refer in the last paragraph in this section is absurd and further highlights the tick and flick process of the assessment as it refers to them having undertaken this consultation and a CCA process with themselves, Arrow are both the landholder and the applicant.
- Section 2.1 their description of the works assiduously avoids openly and transparently describing the very specific reason for the groundwater monitoring program – the Linc contamination, therefore any impact of the contamination is not taken into consideration in the assessment of the application.
- It does not give any discussion or evidence as to how Arrow have previously assessed that this activity will not impact or exacerbate the existing Linc contamination nor how it will into the future and therefore in assessing the RIDA, none of that will be considered. The application fails to identify the need for baseline testing prior to undertaking the activity to identify any further interaction with the contamination to the soil, surface water etc.
- Section 2.3.2 describes the CSG activities in primacy and fails to recognise the original and more important primary use of the land limiting the adequate assessment of the application.
- Section 2.4 fails to indicate the important interactions with PL 493 and subsequent EA conditions with this PL and EA limiting the meaningful assessment of the application.
- Section 3.1.3 asserts that PALU does not apply to the property because the property has not been use for PALU for at least 3 of the previous 10 years. This is an inaccurate representation because for 5 of the last 10 years Arrow themselves have owned the

property, and by the nature of their business PALU is not their core activity and therefore not their interest. This again prevents a true assessment of the application (which in itself is an additional problem with the legislation, because the significant purchasing of land in the area by the CSG industry means that the original priority use of the land and the intent of the legislation is skewed due to the encroachment of the industry and lack of representation of the farmers in the process). The framing of this criteria means that the resource sector can simply buy up all of our prime agricultural land and sit on it without using it as PALU – avoiding this criteria and destroying our agricultural land. This is an unacceptable outcome for Queensland's precious agricultural land.

- The application fails to identify the how the impact of the chain of responsibility amendments will influence their activities
- The maps, EAs, PL, land parcels and descriptions rely on surface land parcels and boundaries but do not acknowledge that the source of the contamination is underground and does not show that underground source in relation to the proposed groundwater monitoring or other CSG activities therefore this cannot be a reasonable assessment.

4/5/2019

"Submission #9"

RPIAct@dsdmip.qld.gov.au

Submission Regarding Arrow Energy RIDA Application #RPI19-002

The RPI Act is one of the few opportunities that landholders have to contribute to and scrutinise the decisions that the government makes in relation to the unconventional gas industry.

The RPI Act is described as seeking to strike a balance between protecting priority land uses and managing the impacts of (and supporting coexistence with) mining and petroleum activities.

The first part of that statement is the pivotal part. The government has been giving the unconventional gas industry primacy over agriculture from the start of the industry. This is the perfect example where due to unprecedented access, poor oversight and non-existent transparency the government and the industry use a tick and flick approach to permitting gas activities leaving the landholder completely unrepresented and in the dark.

In this case, the Linc Energy Contamination is at the heart of the issue.

I submit that the RIDA application referred to above be denied on the grounds that it is not a true, detailed or transparent application that allows a reasonable assessment to determine if the activity will threaten priority agricultural land, nor if adequate controls will be in place to manage the impact of the proposed activities.

In addition, I submit based on the evidence provided in this submission, that the entire PL 253, PL493 and PL185 be removed permanently and the areas be restricted to the existing priority use of the land, agriculture and that the current contamination impacts and potential for exacerbation which may be widespread and irreversible be the reason further resource activity is banned.

Please see attached the details supporting my submission.



Relevant documents to this submission

1. RPI Act Statutory Guideline 02/14 (D17/138774 RPI Act Statutory Guideline 02/14)
<https://dsdmipprd.blob.core.windows.net/general/rpi-guideline-02-14-carrying-out-activities-in-a-paa.pdf>
2. -Arrow RIDA for monitoring wells
<https://planning.dsdmip.qld.gov.au/planning/regional-planning-interests-act/rpi-act-applications-submissions-and-decision-notice>
3. Click on RPI19/002/Wyalla (in particular, the Report and Annexure, linked below)
<https://dsdmipprd.blob.core.windows.net/general/rpi-19-002-report-and-annexures.pdf>
4. Arrow EA for the PL 253
<https://apps.des.qld.gov.au/env-authorities/pdf/ea0001401.pdf>
5. Arrow EA for the PL 493
<https://apps.des.qld.gov.au/env-authorities/pdf/ea0001613.pdf>
6. Maps showing relevant properties and area described

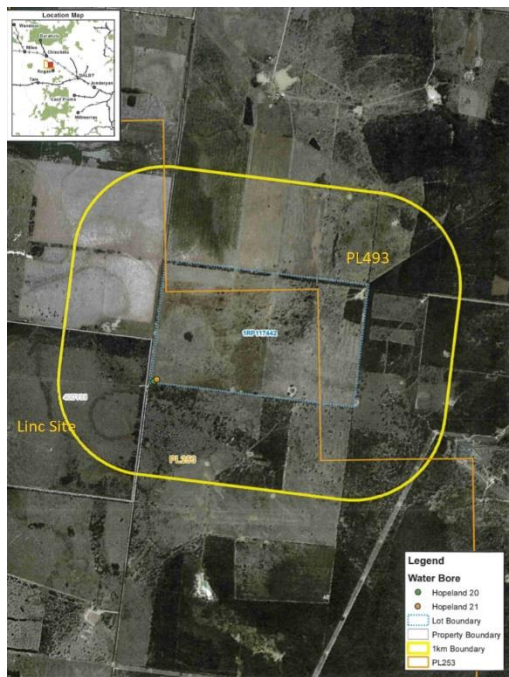


Figure 1 Map showing the information missing from the RIDA, location of the Linc site and the Petroleum leases

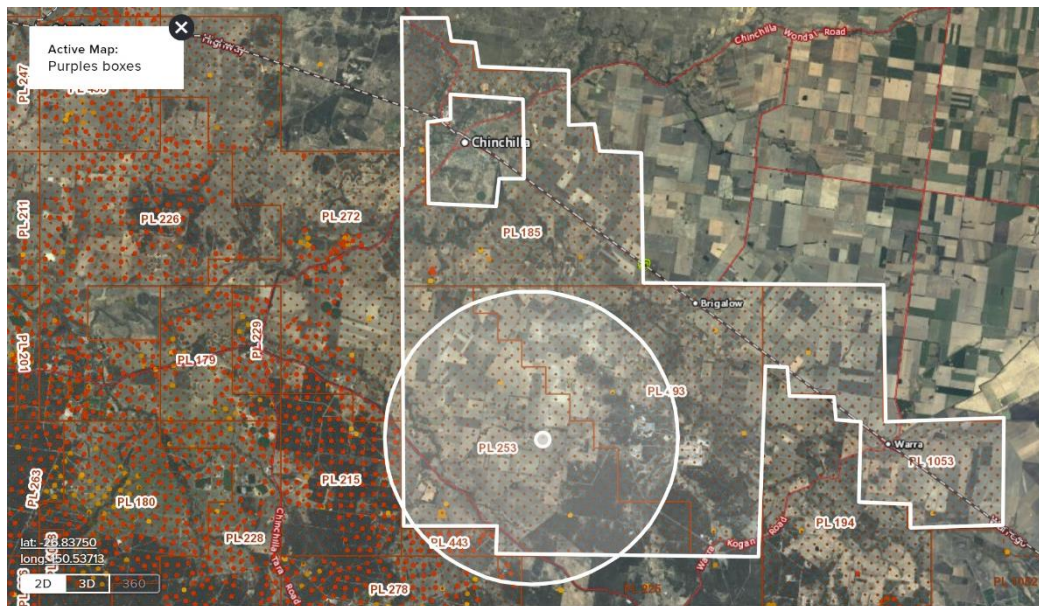


Figure 2 Map showing the impacted areas, Linc Site, Petroleum leases and the 10km Linc exclusion zone from the EA

Details of submission in relation to the specific elements outlined in the RTI Act Statutory Guidelines 02/14 - Carrying out resource activities in a priority agricultural area

1. Piecemeal approach of application avoids full proper assessment of impacts under RPI Act

The first problem with this RIDA is the piecemeal approach that the legislation allows for the industry to approach their approvals that means they are able to subjugate the assessment requirements to suit themselves.

This particular RIDA application is for activities that are in fact a small part of a much larger project across the impacted area. However due to the piecemeal approach they are able to classify this RIDA as only needing to address the Required Outcome 1.

This leaves the issues associated with Required outcome 2 outlined in Table 3 in the guideline out of the assessment process. However these are critical to a proper assessment of the activity as a whole, particularly the prescribed solutions relating to irreversible contamination, OGIA consultation, potentially constraining or restriction of the ongoing use of the area.

That is as per Required Outcome 2, we submit that the activity will result in a material impact on the region because of the activity's impact on the use of land in the PAA for 1 or more PALUs.

Therefore this assessment is unable to identify the significant issues and prescribed solutions identified in Table 3 of the guide and they are in fact critical to the issue at hand.

2. Inadequate information has been provided by the applicant to allow full assessment

This RIDA application does not detail important information to enable appropriate assessment of the application. The information that is missing is detailed below and is relevant to the prescribed solutions outlined in Table 1 & 2.

The Application fails to identify that the RIDA application is in fact part of the larger activities outlined below.

- The EA for PL 253 permits 6 CSG wells, 20 groundwater monitoring wells, 2 sediment ponds and a regulated CSG Water Dam.
- The EA also places significant conditions on Arrow to (by October 2018) monitor EXISTING contamination from the Linc contamination source site to groundwater, and detail a program whereby they will assess the impact of their activities on the existing contamination, 'model' their impact, monitor the existing contamination and advise the government if they detect early indications that their activities have caused a change in the contamination of the groundwater. Which given the experience of landholders impacted by the Linc contamination, this will be too little too late.
- Meanwhile the EA for the neighbouring PL 493 and PL 185 is DIFFERENT to the EA for the neighbouring PL 253. It prescribes that Arrows activities "not directly or indirectly influence the mobilisation of existing groundwater contamination on [Linc]." That Arrow "must not locate *any* coal seam gas production wells within 10 kilometres of the centre of [Linc]." And that the government MAY require Arrow to model and present their findings in relation to their CSG impacts on groundwater contamination from the Linc site.

The 10km zone includes:

- All of PL253
- some of neighbouring PLs from other gas companies who ALREADY have CSG wells in place WITHOUT these conditions
- And half of PL 493

This raises questions for the government to answer and information to be provided directly to the affected landholders (arguably all those impacted by these two PLs) and that should be considered in assessing this RIDA application.

- Why is a 10km exclusion zone in place, why not 20km for example?
- Why are the 6 wells in the EA for PL253 allowed when EA for PL493 explicitly prevents them?
- Provide the affected landholders and in the RIDA the risk assessment that created the 10km CSG Production well exclusion zone.
- Provide the affected landholders, the public and the RIDA assessment officers with the testing results from the Linc contamination (eg copies of reports on the status of the contamination specifically groundwater monitoring network on the Linc site, and the characterisation of Linc's underground coal gasification cavities). It is now in the public interest as it impacts on the EA and landholders should be able to require testing of their water bores (and overland flow due to the presence of a surface water creek on the site) and land in accordance with the findings.
- Provide the affected landholders and the RIDA assessment officers the testing from the other CSG company's impact on the groundwater contamination given they have wells inside the 10km exclusion zone without these conditions
- Provide the affected landholders and the RIDA assessment officers with a copy of the 2018 Arrow modelling and assessment of their activities in relation to the contamination detailed in the EA.

3. Application does not meet Required Outcome 1 and Interaction between Arrow proposal and Linc contamination site is inappropriate and dangerous – RIDA application should not be approved

Which brings us to the Arrow RIDA application for 2 groundwater monitoring bores to be placed on property owned by Arrow within PL 253, right next to the Linc contamination source site.

- Nowhere in their application do they mention the need to have the monitoring bores in place as a result of the requirements of their EA (conflicting as they may be).
- Nowhere is the Linc contamination source Site discussed, only a reference to the lot and plan number of the property is made.
- Nowhere is there an assessment of what putting the monitoring bores in will do to the contamination (Linc's own water monitoring bores have been proven to be a pathway for the contamination).
- Nowhere in the application is the supposed 2018 Arrow modelling and assessment document required by the EA referred to.
- No further impact of their activities is assessed due to the ridiculously circuitous and useless loophole in the legislation and application process that allows them to assert they INTEND to get CCAs with landholders (who are not yet identified and will therefore have no ability to influence this application decision, when the reality is the potential to mobilise and make worse the contamination from Linc is a very real issue that should be a very overt and transparent assessment process in an attempt to protect priority agricultural land)
- Section 1.4 in the Arrow application states that they have safely and sustainably produced CSG, this statement is unfounded and not proven. It has the effect of influencing the assessment without any actual data to prove it.
- Section 1.5 again makes unfounded assertions and absolutely lacks any feedback from those supposedly "coexisted" with. It makes the application process circuitous and self-fulfilling.
- Section 1.6 discusses area wide planning that has not been undertaken and again is an example of the useless circuitous process whereby the impacted landholders are not represented or consulted until after the fact. In this specific application, the the specific consultation and technical details with which they refer in the last paragraph in this section is absurd and further highlights the tick and flick process of the assessment as it refers to them having undertaken this consultation and a CCA process with themselves, Arrow are both the landholder and the applicant.
- Section 2.1 their description of the works assiduously avoids openly and transparently describing the very specific reason for the groundwater monitoring program – the Linc contamination, therefore any impact of the contamination is not taken into consideration in the assessment of the application.
- It does not give any discussion or evidence as to how Arrow have previously assessed that this activity will not impact or exacerbate the existing Linc contamination nor how it will into the future and therefore in assessing the RIDA, none of that will be considered. The application fails to identify the need for baseline testing prior to undertaking the activity to identify any further interaction with the contamination to the soil, surface water etc.
- Section 2.3.2 describes the CSG activities in primacy and fails to recognise the original and more important primary use of the land limiting the adequate assessment of the application.
- Section 2.4 fails to indicate the important interactions with PL 493 and subsequent EA conditions with this PL and EA limiting the meaningful assessment of the application.
- Section 3.1.3 asserts that PALU does not apply to the property because the property has not been use for PALU for at least 3 of the previous 10 years. This is an inaccurate representation because for 5 of the last 10 years Arrow themselves have owned the

property, and by the nature of their business PALU is not their core activity and therefore not their interest. This again prevents a true assessment of the application (which in itself is an additional problem with the legislation, because the significant purchasing of land in the area by the CSG industry means that the original priority use of the land and the intent of the legislation is skewed due to the encroachment of the industry and lack of representation of the farmers in the process). The framing of this criteria means that the resource sector can simply buy up all of our prime agricultural land and sit on it without using it as PALU – avoiding this criteria and destroying our agricultural land. This is an unacceptable outcome for Queensland's precious agricultural land.

- The application fails to identify the how the impact of the chain of responsibility amendments will influence their activities
- The maps, EAs, PL, land parcels and descriptions rely on surface land parcels and boundaries but do not acknowledge that the source of the contamination is underground and does not show that underground source in relation to the proposed groundwater monitoring or other CSG activities therefore this cannot be a reasonable assessment.

20 May 2019

"Submission #10"

RPIAct@dsdmip.qld.gov.au

Submission Regarding Arrow Energy RIDA Application #RPI19-002

The RPI Act is one of the few opportunities that landholders have to contribute to and scrutinise the decisions that the government makes in relation to the unconventional gas industry.

The RPI Act is described as seeking to strike a balance between protecting priority land uses and managing the impacts of (and supporting coexistence with) mining and petroleum activities.

The first part of that statement is the pivotal part. The government has been giving the unconventional gas industry primacy over agriculture from the start of the industry. This is the perfect example where due to unprecedented access, poor oversight and non-existent transparency the government and the industry use a tick and flick approach to permitting gas activities leaving the landholder completely unrepresented and in the dark.

In this case, the Linc Energy Contamination is at the heart of the issue.

I submit that the RIDA application referred to above be denied on the grounds that it is not a true, detailed or transparent application that allows a reasonable assessment to determine if the activity will threaten priority agricultural land, nor if adequate controls will be in place to manage the impact of the proposed activities.

In addition, I submit based on the evidence provided in this submission, that the entire PL 253, PL493 and PL185 be removed permanently and the areas be restricted to the existing priority use of the land, agriculture and that the current contamination impacts and potential for exacerbation which may be widespread and irreversible be the reason further resource activity is banned.

Please see attached the details supporting my submission.



Relevant documents to this submission

1. RPI Act Statutory Guideline 02/14 (D17/138774 RPI Act Statutory Guideline 02/14)
<https://dsdmipprd.blob.core.windows.net/general/rpi-guideline-02-14-carrying-out-activities-in-a-paa.pdf>
2. -Arrow RIDA for monitoring wells
<https://planning.dsdmip.qld.gov.au/planning/regional-planning-interests-act/rpi-act-applications-submissions-and-decision-notice>
3. Click on RPI19/002/Wyalla (in particular, the Report and Annexure, linked below)
<https://dsdmipprd.blob.core.windows.net/general/rpi-19-002-report-and-annexures.pdf>
4. Arrow EA for the PL 253
<https://apps.des.qld.gov.au/env-authorities/pdf/ea0001401.pdf>
5. Arrow EA for the PL 493
<https://apps.des.qld.gov.au/env-authorities/pdf/ea0001613.pdf>
6. Maps showing relevant properties and area described

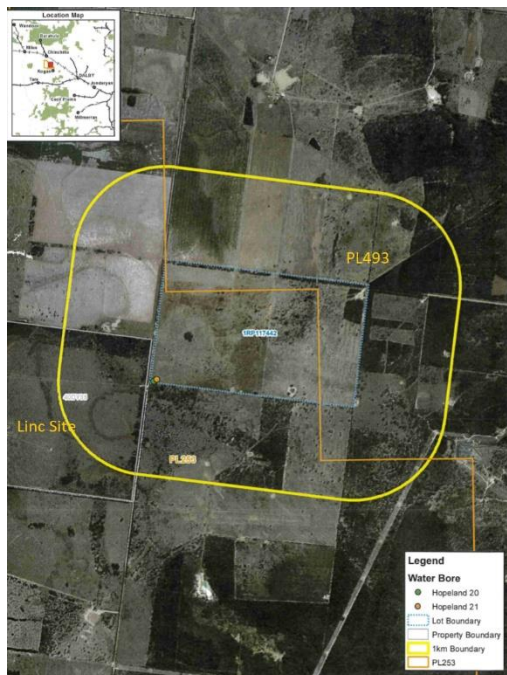


Figure 1 Map showing the information missing from the RIDA, location of the Linc site and the Petroleum leases

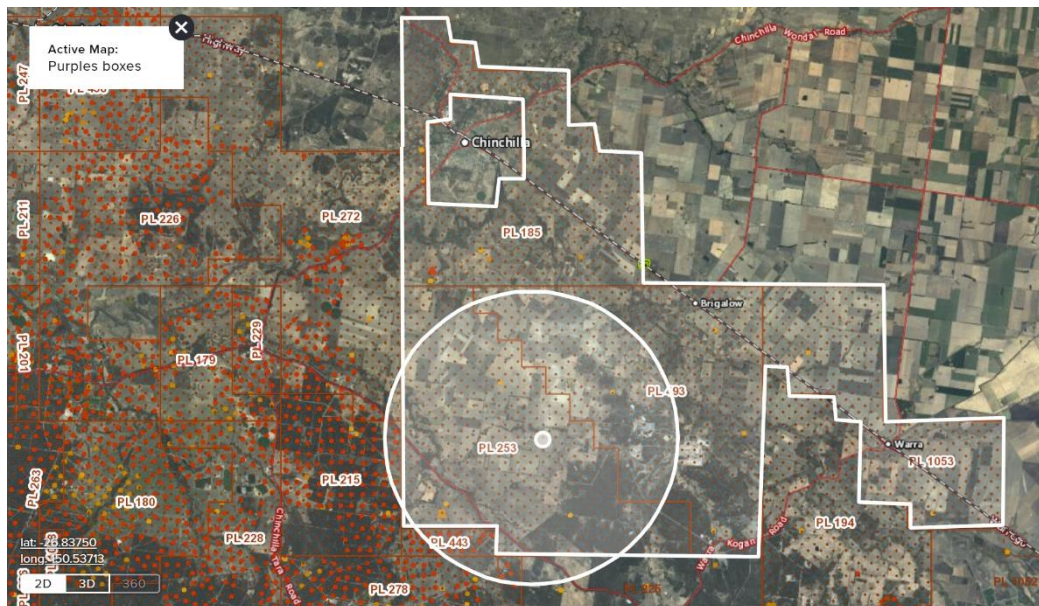


Figure 2 Map showing the impacted areas, Linc Site, Petroleum leases and the 10km Linc exclusion zone from the EA

Details of submission in relation to the specific elements outlined in the RTI Act Statutory Guidelines 02/14 - Carrying out resource activities in a priority agricultural area

1. Piecemeal approach of application avoids full proper assessment of impacts under RPI Act

The first problem with this RIDA is the piecemeal approach that the legislation allows for the industry to approach their approvals that means they are able to subjugate the assessment requirements to suit themselves.

This particular RIDA application is for activities that are in fact a small part of a much larger project across the impacted area. However due to the piecemeal approach they are able to classify this RIDA as only needing to address the Required Outcome 1.

This leaves the issues associated with Required outcome 2 outlined in Table 3 in the guideline out of the assessment process. However these are critical to a proper assessment of the activity as a whole, particularly the prescribed solutions relating to irreversible contamination, OGIA consultation, potentially constraining or restriction of the ongoing use of the area.

That is as per Required Outcome 2, we submit that the activity will result in a material impact on the region because of the activity's impact on the use of land in the PAA for 1 or more PALUs.

Therefore this assessment is unable to identify the significant issues and prescribed solutions identified in Table 3 of the guide and they are in fact critical to the issue at hand.

2. Inadequate information has been provided by the applicant to allow full assessment

This RIDA application does not detail important information to enable appropriate assessment of the application. The information that is missing is detailed below and is relevant to the prescribed solutions outlined in Table 1 & 2.

The Application fails to identify that the RIDA application is in fact part of the larger activities outlined below.

- The EA for PL 253 permits 6 CSG wells, 20 groundwater monitoring wells, 2 sediment ponds and a regulated CSG Water Dam.
- The EA also places significant conditions on Arrow to (by October 2018) monitor EXISTING contamination from the Linc contamination source site to groundwater, and detail a program whereby they will assess the impact of their activities on the existing contamination, 'model' their impact, monitor the existing contamination and advise the government if they detect early indications that their activities have caused a change in the contamination of the groundwater. Which given the experience of landholders impacted by the Linc contamination, this will be too little too late.
- Meanwhile the EA for the neighbouring PL 493 and PL 185 is DIFFERENT to the EA for the neighbouring PL 253. It prescribes that Arrows activities "not directly or indirectly influence the mobilisation of existing groundwater contamination on [Linc]." That Arrow "must not locate *any* coal seam gas production wells within 10 kilometres of the centre of [Linc]." And that the government MAY require Arrow to model and present their findings in relation to their CSG impacts on groundwater contamination from the Linc site.

The 10km zone includes:

- All of PL253
- some of neighbouring PLs from other gas companies who ALREADY have CSG wells in place WITHOUT these conditions
- And half of PL 493

This raises questions for the government to answer and information to be provided directly to the affected landholders (arguably all those impacted by these two PLs) and that should be considered in assessing this RIDA application.

- Why is a 10km exclusion zone in place, why not 20km for example?
- Why are the 6 wells in the EA for PL253 allowed when EA for PL493 explicitly prevents them?
- Provide the affected landholders and in the RIDA the risk assessment that created the 10km CSG Production well exclusion zone.
- Provide the affected landholders, the public and the RIDA assessment officers with the testing results from the Linc contamination (eg copies of reports on the status of the contamination specifically groundwater monitoring network on the Linc site, and the characterisation of Linc's underground coal gasification cavities). It is now in the public interest as it impacts on the EA and landholders should be able to require testing of their water bores (and overland flow due to the presence of a surface water creek on the site) and land in accordance with the findings.
- Provide the affected landholders and the RIDA assessment officers the testing from the other CSG company's impact on the groundwater contamination given they have wells inside the 10km exclusion zone without these conditions
- Provide the affected landholders and the RIDA assessment officers with a copy of the 2018 Arrow modelling and assessment of their activities in relation to the contamination detailed in the EA.

3. Application does not meet Required Outcome 1 and Interaction between Arrow proposal and Linc contamination site is inappropriate and dangerous – RIDA application should not be approved

Which brings us to the Arrow RIDA application for 2 groundwater monitoring bores to be placed on property owned by Arrow within PL 253, right next to the Linc contamination source site.

- Nowhere in their application do they mention the need to have the monitoring bores in place as a result of the requirements of their EA (conflicting as they may be).
- Nowhere is the Linc contamination source Site discussed, only a reference to the lot and plan number of the property is made.
- Nowhere is there an assessment of what putting the monitoring bores in will do to the contamination (Linc's own water monitoring bores have been proven to be a pathway for the contamination).
- Nowhere in the application is the supposed 2018 Arrow modelling and assessment document required by the EA referred to.
- No further impact of their activities is assessed due to the ridiculously circuitous and useless loophole in the legislation and application process that allows them to assert they INTEND to get CCAs with landholders (who are not yet identified and will therefore have no ability to influence this application decision, when the reality is the potential to mobilise and make worse the contamination from Linc is a very real issue that should be a very overt and transparent assessment process in an attempt to protect priority agricultural land)
- Section 1.4 in the Arrow application states that they have safely and sustainably produced CSG, this statement is unfounded and not proven. It has the effect of influencing the assessment without any actual data to prove it.
- Section 1.5 again makes unfounded assertions and absolutely lacks any feedback from those supposedly "coexisted" with. It makes the application process circuitous and self-fulfilling.
- Section 1.6 discusses area wide planning that has not been undertaken and again is an example of the useless circuitous process whereby the impacted landholders are not represented or consulted until after the fact. In this specific application, the the specific consultation and technical details with which they refer in the last paragraph in this section is absurd and further highlights the tick and flick process of the assessment as it refers to them having undertaken this consultation and a CCA process with themselves, Arrow are both the landholder and the applicant.
- Section 2.1 their description of the works assiduously avoids openly and transparently describing the very specific reason for the groundwater monitoring program – the Linc contamination, therefore any impact of the contamination is not taken into consideration in the assessment of the application.
- It does not give any discussion or evidence as to how Arrow have previously assessed that this activity will not impact or exacerbate the existing Linc contamination nor how it will into the future and therefore in assessing the RIDA, none of that will be considered. The application fails to identify the need for baseline testing prior to undertaking the activity to identify any further interaction with the contamination to the soil, surface water etc.
- Section 2.3.2 describes the CSG activities in primacy and fails to recognise the original and more important primary use of the land limiting the adequate assessment of the application.
- Section 2.4 fails to indicate the important interactions with PL 493 and subsequent EA conditions with this PL and EA limiting the meaningful assessment of the application.
- Section 3.1.3 asserts that PALU does not apply to the property because the property has not been use for PALU for at least 3 of the previous 10 years. This is an inaccurate representation because for 5 of the last 10 years Arrow themselves have owned the

property, and by the nature of their business PALU is not their core activity and therefore not their interest. This again prevents a true assessment of the application (which in itself is an additional problem with the legislation, because the significant purchasing of land in the area by the CSG industry means that the original priority use of the land and the intent of the legislation is skewed due to the encroachment of the industry and lack of representation of the farmers in the process). The framing of this criteria means that the resource sector can simply buy up all of our prime agricultural land and sit on it without using it as PALU – avoiding this criteria and destroying our agricultural land. This is an unacceptable outcome for Queensland's precious agricultural land.

- The application fails to identify the how the impact of the chain of responsibility amendments will influence their activities
- The maps, EAs, PL, land parcels and descriptions rely on surface land parcels and boundaries but do not acknowledge that the source of the contamination is underground and does not show that underground source in relation to the proposed groundwater monitoring or other CSG activities therefore this cannot be a reasonable assessment.

17 May 2019

"Submission #11"

RPIAct@dsdmip.qld.gov.au

Submission Regarding Arrow Energy RIDA Application #RPI19-002

The RPI Act is one of the few opportunities that landholders have to contribute to and scrutinise the decisions that the government makes in relation to the unconventional gas industry.

The RPI Act is described as seeking to strike a balance between protecting priority land uses and managing the impacts of (and supporting coexistence with) mining and petroleum activities.

The first part of that statement is the pivotal part. The government has been giving the unconventional gas industry primacy over agriculture from the start of the industry. This is the perfect example where due to unprecedented access, poor oversight and non-existent transparency the government and the industry use a tick and flick approach to permitting gas activities leaving the landholder completely unrepresented and in the dark.

In this case, the Linc Energy Contamination is at the heart of the issue.

I submit that the RIDA application referred to above be denied on the grounds that it is not a true, detailed or transparent application that allows a reasonable assessment to determine if the activity will threaten priority agricultural land, nor if adequate controls will be in place to manage the impact of the proposed activities.

In addition, I submit based on the evidence provided in this submission, that the entire PL 253, PL493 and PL185 be removed permanently and the areas be restricted to the existing priority use of the land, agriculture and that the current contamination impacts and potential for exacerbation which may be widespread and irreversible be the reason further resource activity is banned.

Please see attached the details supporting my submission.



Relevant documents to this submission

1. RPI Act Statutory Guideline 02/14 (D17/138774 RPI Act Statutory Guideline 02/14)
<https://dsdmipprd.blob.core.windows.net/general/rpi-guideline-02-14-carrying-out-activities-in-a-paa.pdf>
2. -Arrow RIDA for monitoring wells
<https://planning.dsdmip.qld.gov.au/planning/regional-planning-interests-act/rpi-act-applications-submissions-and-decision-notice>
3. Click on RPI19/002/Wyalla (in particular, the Report and Annexure, linked below)
<https://dsdmipprd.blob.core.windows.net/general/rpi-19-002-report-and-annexures.pdf>
4. Arrow EA for the PL 253
<https://apps.des.qld.gov.au/env-authorities/pdf/ea0001401.pdf>
5. Arrow EA for the PL 493
<https://apps.des.qld.gov.au/env-authorities/pdf/ea0001613.pdf>
6. Maps showing relevant properties and area described

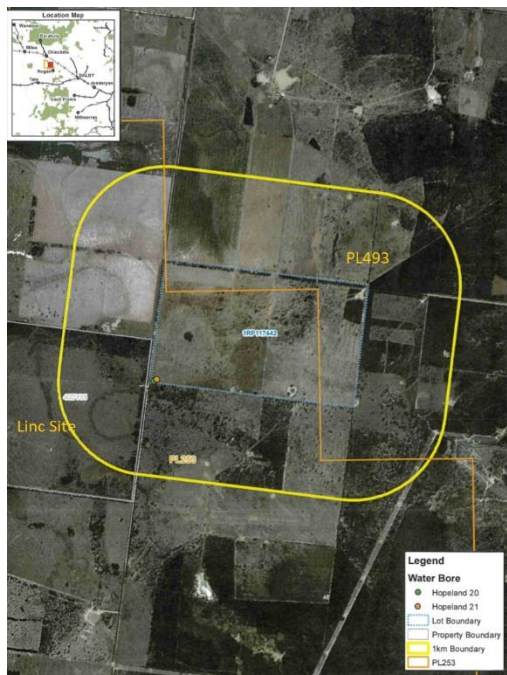


Figure 1 Map showing the information missing from the RIDA, location of the Linc site and the Petroleum leases

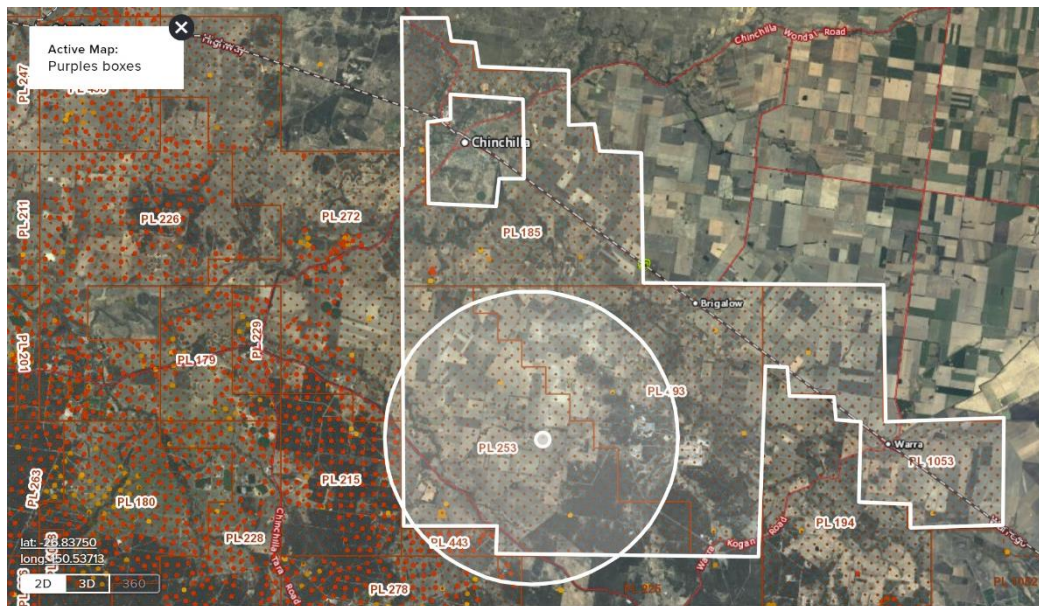


Figure 2 Map showing the impacted areas, Linc Site, Petroleum leases and the 10km Linc exclusion zone from the EA

Details of submission in relation to the specific elements outlined in the RTI Act Statutory Guidelines 02/14 - Carrying out resource activities in a priority agricultural area

1. Piecemeal approach of application avoids full proper assessment of impacts under RPI Act

The first problem with this RIDA is the piecemeal approach that the legislation allows for the industry to approach their approvals that means they are able to subjugate the assessment requirements to suit themselves.

This particular RIDA application is for activities that are in fact a small part of a much larger project across the impacted area. However due to the piecemeal approach they are able to classify this RIDA as only needing to address the Required Outcome 1.

This leaves the issues associated with Required outcome 2 outlined in Table 3 in the guideline out of the assessment process. However these are critical to a proper assessment of the activity as a whole, particularly the prescribed solutions relating to irreversible contamination, OGIA consultation, potentially constraining or restriction of the ongoing use of the area.

That is as per Required Outcome 2, we submit that the activity will result in a material impact on the region because of the activity's impact on the use of land in the PAA for 1 or more PALUs.

Therefore this assessment is unable to identify the significant issues and prescribed solutions identified in Table 3 of the guide and they are in fact critical to the issue at hand.

2. Inadequate information has been provided by the applicant to allow full assessment

This RIDA application does not detail important information to enable appropriate assessment of the application. The information that is missing is detailed below and is relevant to the prescribed solutions outlined in Table 1 & 2.

The Application fails to identify that the RIDA application is in fact part of the larger activities outlined below.

- The EA for PL 253 permits 6 CSG wells, 20 groundwater monitoring wells, 2 sediment ponds and a regulated CSG Water Dam.
- The EA also places significant conditions on Arrow to (by October 2018) monitor EXISTING contamination from the Linc contamination source site to groundwater, and detail a program whereby they will assess the impact of their activities on the existing contamination, 'model' their impact, monitor the existing contamination and advise the government if they detect early indications that their activities have caused a change in the contamination of the groundwater. Which given the experience of landholders impacted by the Linc contamination, this will be too little too late.
- Meanwhile the EA for the neighbouring PL 493 and PL 185 is DIFFERENT to the EA for the neighbouring PL 253. It prescribes that Arrows activities "not directly or indirectly influence the mobilisation of existing groundwater contamination on [Linc]." That Arrow "must not locate *any* coal seam gas production wells within 10 kilometres of the centre of [Linc]." And that the government MAY require Arrow to model and present their findings in relation to their CSG impacts on groundwater contamination from the Linc site.

The 10km zone includes:

- All of PL253
- some of neighbouring PLs from other gas companies who ALREADY have CSG wells in place WITHOUT these conditions
- And half of PL 493

This raises questions for the government to answer and information to be provided directly to the affected landholders (arguably all those impacted by these two PLs) and that should be considered in assessing this RIDA application.

- Why is a 10km exclusion zone in place, why not 20km for example?
- Why are the 6 wells in the EA for PL253 allowed when EA for PL493 explicitly prevents them?
- Provide the affected landholders and in the RIDA the risk assessment that created the 10km CSG Production well exclusion zone.
- Provide the affected landholders, the public and the RIDA assessment officers with the testing results from the Linc contamination (eg copies of reports on the status of the contamination specifically groundwater monitoring network on the Linc site, and the characterisation of Linc's underground coal gasification cavities). It is now in the public interest as it impacts on the EA and landholders should be able to require testing of their water bores (and overland flow due to the presence of a surface water creek on the site) and land in accordance with the findings.
- Provide the affected landholders and the RIDA assessment officers the testing from the other CSG company's impact on the groundwater contamination given they have wells inside the 10km exclusion zone without these conditions
- Provide the affected landholders and the RIDA assessment officers with a copy of the 2018 Arrow modelling and assessment of their activities in relation to the contamination detailed in the EA.

3. Application does not meet Required Outcome 1 and Interaction between Arrow proposal and Linc contamination site is inappropriate and dangerous – RIDA application should not be approved

Which brings us to the Arrow RIDA application for 2 groundwater monitoring bores to be placed on property owned by Arrow within PL 253, right next to the Linc contamination source site.

- Nowhere in their application do they mention the need to have the monitoring bores in place as a result of the requirements of their EA (conflicting as they may be).
- Nowhere is the Linc contamination source Site discussed, only a reference to the lot and plan number of the property is made.
- Nowhere is there an assessment of what putting the monitoring bores in will do to the contamination (Linc's own water monitoring bores have been proven to be a pathway for the contamination).
- Nowhere in the application is the supposed 2018 Arrow modelling and assessment document required by the EA referred to.
- No further impact of their activities is assessed due to the ridiculously circuitous and useless loophole in the legislation and application process that allows them to assert they INTEND to get CCAs with landholders (who are not yet identified and will therefore have no ability to influence this application decision, when the reality is the potential to mobilise and make worse the contamination from Linc is a very real issue that should be a very overt and transparent assessment process in an attempt to protect priority agricultural land)
- Section 1.4 in the Arrow application states that they have safely and sustainably produced CSG, this statement is unfounded and not proven. It has the effect of influencing the assessment without any actual data to prove it.
- Section 1.5 again makes unfounded assertions and absolutely lacks any feedback from those supposedly "coexisted" with. It makes the application process circuitous and self-fulfilling.
- Section 1.6 discusses area wide planning that has not been undertaken and again is an example of the useless circuitous process whereby the impacted landholders are not represented or consulted until after the fact. In this specific application, the the specific consultation and technical details with which they refer in the last paragraph in this section is absurd and further highlights the tick and flick process of the assessment as it refers to them having undertaken this consultation and a CCA process with themselves, Arrow are both the landholder and the applicant.
- Section 2.1 their description of the works assiduously avoids openly and transparently describing the very specific reason for the groundwater monitoring program – the Linc contamination, therefore any impact of the contamination is not taken into consideration in the assessment of the application.
- It does not give any discussion or evidence as to how Arrow have previously assessed that this activity will not impact or exacerbate the existing Linc contamination nor how it will into the future and therefore in assessing the RIDA, none of that will be considered. The application fails to identify the need for baseline testing prior to undertaking the activity to identify any further interaction with the contamination to the soil, surface water etc.
- Section 2.3.2 describes the CSG activities in primacy and fails to recognise the original and more important primary use of the land limiting the adequate assessment of the application.
- Section 2.4 fails to indicate the important interactions with PL 493 and subsequent EA conditions with this PL and EA limiting the meaningful assessment of the application.
- Section 3.1.3 asserts that PALU does not apply to the property because the property has not been use for PALU for at least 3 of the previous 10 years. This is an inaccurate representation because for 5 of the last 10 years Arrow themselves have owned the

property, and by the nature of their business PALU is not their core activity and therefore not their interest. This again prevents a true assessment of the application (which in itself is an additional problem with the legislation, because the significant purchasing of land in the area by the CSG industry means that the original priority use of the land and the intent of the legislation is skewed due to the encroachment of the industry and lack of representation of the farmers in the process). The framing of this criteria means that the resource sector can simply buy up all of our prime agricultural land and sit on it without using it as PALU – avoiding this criteria and destroying our agricultural land. This is an unacceptable outcome for Queensland's precious agricultural land.

- The application fails to identify the how the impact of the chain of responsibility amendments will influence their activities
- The maps, EAs, PL, land parcels and descriptions rely on surface land parcels and boundaries but do not acknowledge that the source of the contamination is underground and does not show that underground source in relation to the proposed groundwater monitoring or other CSG activities therefore this cannot be a reasonable assessment.