

The Hon Chris Hartcher

Minister for Resources and Energy **Special Minister of State Minister for the Central Coast**

MEDIA RELEASE

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COAL SEAM GAS - INFORMING THE COMMUNITY WWW.CSG.NSW.GOV.AU

The NSW Government has launched a new one-stop-shop for landholders and residents looking for factual information on the CSG industry and regulations governing its conduct.

Resources Minister Chris Hartcher said the site had been developed in response to community concern about misinformation circulated by certain groups, and encouraged all interested parties to log on.

"We have heard community concerns about the need for greater information and factual content about the CSG industry and have acted," Mr Hartcher said.

"The NSW Government has implemented the toughest regulatory framework in Australia and the industry here operates in a tightly controlled environment.

"The new site includes comprehensive information about the many Government controls regulating the NSW CSG industry, as well as the location of CSG well sites and CSGrelated activities across the State.

"We've made it easier to access information about the industry, and have significantly improved what was previously available to the public. I encourage all interested parties to log onto the website, read the fact sheets, watch the video messages, and join the conversation on Facebook and Twitter."

A new interactive map will allow members of the public to search for CSG wells by postcode or area, company name or licence title.

It will also include information confirming:

- if a CSG well is currently in production,
- whether the well has been rehabilitated and permanently sealed or suspended;
- whether the well has been fractured and on what date; and
- whether the well has been horizontally or laterally drilled.

"The website also details the rights of farmers and landowners when approached by a CSG company. Many people aren't aware that a titleholder can't access a property unless a land access agreement has been agreed to and signed by both parties," Mr Hartcher said.

"Communities can't be expected to come to an informed conclusion about exploration and production activities unless they have access to the facts."

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