

MEDIA RELEASE

GROUNDSWELL GLOUCESTER CALLS ON LOCAL MP TO RESPOND TO MEDICAL WARNING ON COAL SEAM GAS FRACKING

Wednesday March 5, 2014

Groundswell Gloucester today called on local Federal member for Lynne Dr David Gillespie to come to the town to tell the community first hand about the health impacts of coal seam gas.

Chair of Groundswell Gloucester Julie Lyford is in Canberra this week to meet with MPs of all political parties but failed to get a meeting with her own MP.

“The Medical Journal of Australia this week warned of the health impacts of coal seam gas, which has only fuelled community concerns about CSG industrialisation in the Gloucester Valley,” Ms Lyford said.

“The MJA said a review of available literature showed there was a considerable degree of uncertainty surrounding hydraulic fracturing and an emerging consensus about the health and environmental risks.

“It warned that the health burdens of unconventional gas are likely to fall disproportionately on rural communities, the young and the elderly.

“We would like Dr Gillespie as a medical practitioner to give us his personal assurance that our children will face no long term health consequences from the chemical cocktail involved in hydraulic fracturing and produced water.

“Until he can prove to us that this technology is safe for the people of Gloucester now and into the future he should be standing up with the community and saying No to fracking.”



1. Julie Lyford speaks to the media



2. Lock the Gate contingent in Canberra

For comment:

Julie Lyford, 0424269784

Link to the MJA journal article:

<https://www.mja.com.au/journal/2014/200/4/harms-unknown-health-uncertainties-cast-doubt-role-unconventional-gas-australias>