

Tuesday 26 October 2010

PR/197/10

Call to suspend mining in NSW

The NSW Farmers' Association is calling for a moratorium on any new mining or coal seam gas development across the State.

NSW Farmers' Association Mining Taskforce Chair Fiona Simson says the Executive Council has voted unanimously in support of a suspension at a meeting in Sydney.

"The coal seam gas industry in NSW is expanding rapidly," Mrs Simson said.

"Mineral and petroleum titles and applications now cover around 70 percent of the State," Mrs Simson said.

The Association is calling on the NSW Government and Opposition to develop a strategic plan for the coal, and coal seam gas industries, and support a moratorium until a plan is implemented.

"These industries are being allowed to flourish without proper concern for the threat they pose to farmland and water resources," Mrs Simson said.

"We're not opposed to mining and coal seam gas development, but want see a balanced approach taken when decisions are made about where development can take place.

"A strategic plan should consider a transparent approval process, independent monitoring of mining and gas industries, and aquifer protection.

"The plan should also impose strict parameters on 'sleeper' licences, which threaten to see mining activities revived after many decades.

"It's also important any landholders affected by these industries have access to just terms compensation," Mrs Simson said.

The moratorium the Association is in favour of would apply to new mineral and gas applications, renewals, or extensions.

Contact: Olivia Suzanski (Media Officer) 0429 990 218

If you no longer wish to be on our mailing list simply [click here](#) to unsubscribe. If you are having difficulty unsubscribing from this page please email us on media@nswfarmers.org.au and we will remove you from our lists.