



## **TAYLOR WILL WORK TO PROTECT AQUIFERS AND RESIDENTIAL AREAS FROM CSG RISKS**

Angus Taylor, the Liberal Candidate for Hume, said today that he welcomed any steps taken by the federal and state governments which facilitated the co-existence of mining, agriculture and communities. He said that gas companies should not have free reign and should only operate where risks to aquifers, agriculture and residential areas are avoidable.

Mr Taylor said:

“When we have the Greens and the New South Wales Farmers Federation joining together to agitate for the same thing, then it is pretty clear that the issue of unrestrained CSG mining issue cuts across the political spectrum.

“This is understandable. Our water is one of our most precious resources. As a farmer and having grown up in farming family there could be no one who holds this view more strongly than me.

Mr Taylor said he shared community concerns about the impact of coal seam gas and coal mining on water resources. He said that the coalition supported the implementation of the expert scientific panel to further research the impact of coal seam gas development on water because there is a need to address genuine community questions and concerns.

Mr Taylor said:

“The coalition has always said that coal seam gas should not compromise the security of our water resources, which are a public asset. The coalition will consider the amendments proposed by the government in that context.

Mr Taylor also said that the duty of governments is to strike a balance.

“Whilst there can be no compromise on preserving our water assets, those who call for an outright ban on non-conventional gas and mining are extremists, and deliberately whip up hysteria without any view to the science.

“As I have said, repeatedly and publically on this subject, we are facing rapidly rising gas and electricity bills and a serious risk of gas shortages, all around Australia and right here in the Hume electorate. Using the right gas has the potential to reduce electricity costs and contain gas bills which are at risk of rapid increases.

“As always, I will look to science and evidence, not to simplistic biases. With balance, we can protect our towns, aquifers and farmlands, while containing electricity and gas bills. I will always be looking to get that balance right.

**Please contact Angus Taylor on 0413 963 113 for further information.**