



**ANEDO – Australian Network of
Environmental Defender’s Offices**

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Committee Secretary
Senate Standing Committees on Rural Affairs and Transport
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Secretary

**Inquiry into management of the Murray Darling Basin –
impact of mining coal seam gas**

The Australian Network of Environmental Defender’s Offices (ANEDO) has previously submitted to the Committee’s Inquiry into the management of the Murray Darling Basin.¹

While we do not propose to make a further submission on the impacts of coal seam gas (CSG) specific to the Basin, we would like to draw the Committee’s attention to an EDO NSW Discussion Paper, *Mining Law in New South Wales*, released on 29 June 2011 (see **Attachment A**).²

The Discussion Paper touches on a number of issues in the Committee’s terms of reference. In particular:

The economic, social and environmental impacts of mining coal seam gas on:

- *the sustainability of water aquifers and future water licensing arrangements;*
- *the property rights and values of landholders; and*

¹ ANEDO, “Submission on the Guide to the proposed Murray-Darling Basin Plan”, December 2010, available at: http://www.edo.org.au/policy/101216mdb_guide.pdf.

² Available at: http://www.edo.org.au/edonsw/site/pdf/pubs/110628mining_law_discussion_paper.pdf.

- *the social and economic benefits or otherwise for regional towns and the effective management of relationships between mining and other interests.*³

While the Discussion Paper focuses on NSW law and policy, ANEDO believes the paper may assist the Committee in so far as it addresses the environmental and community impacts of CSG.

Yours sincerely

Mr Nari Sahukar
Acting Policy & Law Reform Director
Environmental Defender's Office NSW
on behalf of ANEDO

ATTACHMENT A:

Environmental Defender's Office (NSW), *Mining Law in New South Wales – Discussion Paper* (June 2011)

Available at: http://www.edo.org.au/edonsw/site/pdf/pubs/110628mining_law_discussion_paper.pdf.

(hard copy attached)

³ Australian Senate Standing Committees on Rural Affairs and Transport, *Inquiry into management of the Murray Darling Basin – impact of mining coal seam gas*, Terms of reference, available at http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/rat_ctte/mdb/info.htm, accessed 30/6/11.