



AgForce Projects

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AgForce CSG sessions launch in Central Queensland

Central Queensland landholders will have the opportunity to attend AgForce Projects highly successful coal seam gas (CSG) information sessions when they launch in the region later this month.

While AgForce continues to call for government to restrict CSG operations until the industry's cumulative impacts are known, the sessions help landholders prepare themselves for future CSG negotiations.

The CSG sessions have been running in Southern Queensland's Surat Basin since March, but following the allocation of an extra \$1.4 million in state government funding, will now be rolled out in the Galilee and Bowen Basins.

AgForce CSG project manager Kate Dunn said the expansion will provide Central Queensland landholders with much-needed information to cope with the CSG industry.

"Starting in mid-October, sessions in the Bowen and Galilee Basins will give landholders in these areas a chance to access information about their rights and responsibilities under CSG legislation and assistance on how to prepare for negotiations with CSG companies," Ms Dunn said.

Free CSG workshops will be held at Springsure, Capella, Moranbah and Nebo from 17-20 October.

Ms Dunn said the sessions help landholders find out which companies have authority to explore over their property and to understand where they stand in the event of a company approaching them.

"Under amendments to the Land Access Code introduced in November 2010, any company with a resource authority must avoid unreasonably interfering with landholders' farming activities," Ms Dunn said.

"Landholders now have more rights when negotiating with a CSG company, which includes having a say in where CSG companies can go on their land and how they conduct themselves. But it is still important that landholders exercise these rights to ensure a fair deal.

"By negotiating an effective CCA, landholders can put in place checks and balances to minimise the impacts on their business," she said.

More than 1000 Queensland producers have attended AgForce Projects CSG sessions in the Surat Basin .

Sessions are delivered free to all producers through AgForward, an initiative of AgForce within its project division, funded by the Queensland Government.

Producers wishing to attend a free information session can call (07) 3238 6048 or visit www.agforceprojects.org.au

For comment call Sue Dillon on (07) 3236 3100 or 0417 760 481 or Kate Dunn on (07) 3238 6043 or 0429 123 099.

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