

CTSCo Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) Project

CTSCo















Carbon Transport & Storage

A GLENCORE COMPANY

Glencore's CTSCo carbon capture and storage project in the Surat Basin is a key project that will provide a potential pathway for low emission future energy and industry development.

Disappointingly, claims made by AgForce about the CTSCo Project are inaccurate and misleading.

We would like to set the record straight.

CLAIM	FACT
 CTSCo will 'pump dirty emissions' into the Great Artesian Basin.	 CTSCo plans to inject 330,000 tonnes of food-grade carbon dioxide – similar to that found in soft drinks – at depths of more than 2.3 kilometres. The aquifer we've identified contains non-potable water with fluoride levels six times above the safe drinking level and is not used by any agricultural producer within a 50 kilometre radius.
 AgForce 'has done the technical work' and 'has the evidence' required to oppose the project.	 No technical work or evidence has been presented by AgForce or made publicly available to support its claims, as far as we are aware. CTSCo has provided more than 3,000 pages of public material as part of its Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).
 AgForce claims that our CO ₂ test injection 'will cause damage'.	 This is not supported by the facts. All our scientific data provides us with a very high degree of confidence that our CO ₂ test injection will have no impact on regional agricultural producers or town water. Our project has been reviewed by expert third-party institutions, including the Australian Government Independent Expert Scientific Committee (IESC), the Office of Groundwater Impact Assessment (OGIA) and CSIRO who concluded that the impacts would be local and minor.
 AgForce says that: 'AgForce and industry aren't opposed to carbon capture and storage. We understand it's a new and very good technology, for allowing us to meet our climate goals around emissions and things important to humanity generally.'	 CCS is not a new technology. CCS has been in use for 40 years and there are now over 40 CCS projects in operation around the world with about 185 more in development. Last year alone, 198 new CCS facilities were added to the global project pipeline. ¹
 AgForce says its 'concern is not with that technology' but with CTSCo's intention to inject the CO ₂ into an aquifer.	 The fact is that the majority of all CCS operations around the world do exactly that – inject the CO ₂ into a very deep aquifer containing low quality water. The oil and gas industry has been successfully operating in the Great Artesian Basin for decades.
 The Great Artesian Basin will be placed 'in jeopardy' as a result of an injection of 330,000 tonnes of CO ₂ .	 This is untrue. The robust scientific data we've compiled provides us with very high confidence that the food grade CO ₂ injected deep underground will not adversely impact agricultural or human use of groundwater within the Great Artesian Basin.
 AgForce says 'there is concrete scientific evidence that CO ₂ reacts with underground rock, releasing stored toxins including arsenic and lead to levels present in the waste that make it unsafe and even lethal.'	 This is misleading. The mobilisation of trace metals already contained in the geology due to CO ₂ storage is minor and localised, which is clearly described in the project's EIS. The groundwater at the site is already unsuitable for human consumption due to the very high level of fluoride in the water.

CTSCo will continue to engage with all stakeholders but urges everyone to focus on facts and the science, rather than rely on misinformation to oppose the project.

The project's Environmental Impact Statement is available here: www.ctsco.com.au/about#eis

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¹ Global CCS Institute, 2023, Global Status of CCS 2023, www.globalccsinstitute.com/resources/publications-reports-research/global-status-of-ccs-2023-executive-summary/