

Our Vision

Sustainable regional communities and businesses coexisting with the onshore gas industry.

Our Purpose

To manage and improve sustainable coexistence among rural landholders, regional communities and the onshore gas industry in Queensland.

Our Values

- Personal connections
- Transparency and objectivity
- Independence
- Consultative and communicative
- Perform and deliver

Our contribution to the government's objectives for the community

The GasFields Commission was established to support the coexistence of two critical contributors to the Queensland economy, the agricultural and resource sectors. The Commission contributes to Government's objective of building safe, caring and connected communities and supports both the agriculture and the on-shore gas industries together contributing to the food, fibre and energy needs of our state, as well as providing thousands of jobs in regional areas..

The Commission's focus on Queensland's regional communities assists in ensuring the vital physical and social infrastructure needs are highlighted to decision makers in local, state and federal governments, and the onshore gas industry. Investment in regional communities drives jobs growth and reduces the urban drift.

Our powers and functions

The GasFields Commission was established as an independent statutory body on 1 July 2013, with our powers and functions set out in the *Gasfields Commission Act 2013*. Some of our key powers and functions include:

- Reviewing the effectiveness of government entities in implementing regulatory frameworks that relate to the onshore gas industry.
- Making recommendations to Ministers that regulatory frameworks and legislation relating to the onshore gas industry be reviewed or amended.
- Convening landholders, regional communities and the onshore gas industry for the purpose of resolving issues.
- Obtaining particular information from government entities and prescribed entities.
- Obtaining advice about the onshore gas industry or functions of the Commission from government entities.

Strategic risks and opportunities

Risks

- Capacity to address / resolve incompatible stakeholder group expectations.
- Maintaining pace with industry development programs and related coexistence issues.
- Commission's appropriate allocation of resources to effectively manage growing onshore gas development and associated land access issues.
- Maintaining community confidence in Commission's independence given competing demands of stakeholders.
- Capacity to promote collaboration around scientific research to facilitate greater understanding of onshore gas impact on the environment.

Opportunities

- Proactively managing coexistence issues in emerging onshore gas areas.
- Leading the development of strategies for long term infrastructure legacy: roads, communications.
- Make greater use of government and industry partnerships to source and communicate accurate information to build community confidence.
- Develop greater integration between onshore gas proponents in relation to co-existence issues.
- Be an active player in Regional Planning considerations.
- Ensure local business is provided with ongoing access to information on industry work packages.

Portfolio	Community and Business	Local Government and Infrastructure	Gas Industry Development
Strategic Objective	Long term sustainability of regional communities	Local governments, in onshore gas regions, effectively planning and managing services and infrastructure	Promote greater transparency and confidence in the onshore gas industry's activities
Strategic Priorities	<p>We will do this by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support local business by ensuring that industry operators provide ongoing and timely information on industry work packages • Working partnerships with regional communities, business groups, government and industry • Ongoing engagement with representatives of State government, economic development bodies and industry 	<p>We will do this by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Being an advocate for local governments • Assist local governments in dealings with industry in emerging onshore gas areas • Share information and support local governments in managing infrastructure impacts. • Engagement opportunities between local governments and industry 	<p>We will do this by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collating and publishing relevant data from industry • Supporting a constructive dialogue between industry and the community • Evaluating legislative and regulatory performance
Outcomes	<p>Sustainable regional communities</p> <p>Business opportunities supporting the growth of local businesses</p> <p>Economic benefits retained within regional communities, including maximising local supply chain spend and employment</p> <p>Strong working relationships between the onshore gas industry and regional communities</p>	<p>Social and physical infrastructure improvements supporting development</p> <p>Better planning of investment</p>	<p>Community understanding of the industry</p> <p>Confidence the industry is contributing positively to the state economy and regional development</p> <p>Compliance by the industry to regulations that meet community needs and expectations</p>
Measures	<p>Regional businesses winning work with onshore gas industry</p> <p>Investment in building sustainable communities by the onshore gas industry, governments, and others</p> <p>Employment data</p>	<p>Mutually beneficial onshore gas industry infrastructure investments in Local Government areas</p> <p>Local Government feedback</p>	<p>Extensive data packages made available and regularly updated</p> <p>Effective relationships built with onshore gas proponents</p>



Portfolio	Science and Research	Land Access	Water and Salt Management
Strategic Objective	The community understands the science that underpins co-existence issues	Land access Conduct and Compensation negotiations reflect professional standards	The quantity and quality of groundwater is not compromised and promote the beneficial use of produced water and salt as a resource
Strategic Priorities	<p>We will do this by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assisting the direction of future scientific research • Ensuring that relevant scientific research and studies are communicated • Working with Queensland’s Chief Scientist to ensure research activities are targeted toward identified coexistence issues 	<p>We will do this by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharing information on best practice in land access conduct and compensation • Being an advocate for landholders • Monitoring the rehabilitation of pipeline easements and other impacted landscapes 	<p>We will do this by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring that the regulatory framework addresses issues that have the potential to impact coexistence • Promoting beneficial use and the efficient and effective use of CSG associated water • Protecting the rights of underground water users with ongoing monitoring of make good arrangements • Ensure appropriate management of salt that ensures long term environmental protection and potential beneficial use
Outcomes	<p>Release of scientific facts to improve community awareness</p> <p>A safe, scientifically credible and sustainable industry</p>	<p>Landholder confidence and trust in negotiations</p> <p>Fair compensation and appropriate conduct</p>	<p>Water security</p> <p>Beneficial use of produced water</p> <p>Effective management of salt</p>
Measures	<p>Publications by relevant bodies of science and research on co-existence issues</p> <p>Effective networks built with science and research agencies</p>	<p>Professional Conduct and Compensation Agreement negotiations</p> <p>Landholder feedback</p>	<p>Increased landholder and community confidence</p> <p>Reduction of water related complaints referred to the CSG Compliance Unit</p>

