

David Simson, ¹ [redacted] all my life
actively working on the land, have been
retired 3 years now. [redacted] property

[redacted]
held since 1886, comprising 8,000 acres
running Merino Sheep & P.H. Beef Cattle
until 1954, when we commenced
Broadacre Grain Farming on Black
Soils. We sold our sheep flock in
1960. with excellent result. Prosperity
My family have been involved with
farming in Aust. without break since
1840. Starting in Victoria, & then
moving into N.S.W. & finally into Qld
as far North, as 100 miles S/W of
Longreach by 1900.

So we understand well the fragility
of Aust. soils, flora & fauna & the unreliability
of seasons. Plus the huge value of our
aquifers over vast areas, for farming &
the very existence of everything i.e. human
beings. These U/G supplies have taken
thousands of years to accumulate & ca
be depleted.

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e.g. In California, U.S.A., where the basins
were pumped out, although a much better
situation existed of snow melt every
spring from 4 major mountain ranges.

Arable land is a meagre 6% of the
Aust. land mass & the river pool Plains
is a very special part of this 6% & one
of its great pluses is the fact that it can
grow summer & winter crop equally
well.

The terrible situation, we farmers now
face, is the destruction of 4 major items
of our production, by Gov'ts. both State
& Federal & by Coal Miners &
Producers of Gas ①

① Water - without clean, reliable quantities
of water nothing can grow or survive.
The drawdown & misplacement of water

Page 3 at conclusion of "Spring Ridge" -
spell out these facts re
water loss & subsidence of land
as covered in item 2 - this at a meeting
in Qdi. recently.

by the miners with open cut or long wall V.C. mining will be huge & could as well as ~~take~~ destroying farm supplies, take away the water supplies from Mt. Morris Ck. Willow Tree & Spring Ridge, pollution of the water is another danger. ^{Assessing "Fracking"} Pollution & destruction of water & land by the Gas producers is another grave danger & has already happened in the Pilliga to water & to large areas of land that have been sterilised by spillage of chemicals. This has already happened in N.S.W. to large areas of fertile land. Also in U.S.A. on huge scale, as shown in documentary shown "Gas lands" produced & shown in Aust. by young American, named Fox.

② Destruction of our land:-

By open cut mining will be complete - there cannot be any restoration & it will probably be millions of years before any restoration can take place, if it can ever happen!

long wall U/B. ^{H.} mining:-

Huge damage to water & aquifers & flow of water above & below ground.

Subsidence, which will be huge in time, ^{which is} unknown, will render land, i.e. flood plain, unusable for grain production or any food production. (B.H.P. contrary to their statements are long wall mining under their flood plains for miles out from the ridges, e.g. as far west as Yarram^{an} Creek.)

The damage that will occur to houses, sheds & other buildings, Wall hollow villages & Carona. Good lot buildings & yards will be crippling.

③ Food production: - falling.

If matters are allowed to continue as they are at the moment, e.g. Coal Mining Gas production & drilling. thereby destruction of water & land. The lack of any thoughts of the importance of our Aust. Primary production, & thereby any

help or support given to these Industries by our Politicians or Government Officials - ~~The National~~ both State & Federal. The National Party being leaders in this area of stupidity & lack of support.

This trend will cause the end of "clean & green supplies of food" & I believe there will be a great many starving Aust. citizens within 15 to 20 years.

We in the firing line have been fed so many lies by the miners & gas ^D & hydro. drillers, that it is well nigh impossible to believe anything we are told.

④ The loss of our Democracy: -

It is happening quietly & rapidly - no respect for anything or anybody, no sense between right & wrong, no thoughts as to what you should not under any circumstances do to your neighbour or friend, disappearance of honesty & truthfulness & the old statement - "do unto others as you would have them do unto you" is gone.

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No protection from the Law of any
Rights pertaining to land held by Freehold
title, this land you will have looked
after & worked your guts out on for
many years & if you have a lucky win
at law supporting your rights, will be
quickly negated by Out of State or Fed
Government. To a free country is gone.
Snowed under a mass of forms, returns,
restrictions, liabilities as well as working
7 days most weeks or 12 or 14 hrs a day.

For God's sake stop all this madness
before it is too late!

I am not speaking for myself today -
but for the future of Australia &
its citizens & a decent future for them.