

# IAH Queensland Branch Presentation: A review of hydrogeological evidence within the Queensland Land Court decision to approve the Carmichael Mine

When: Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2017, 5pm

Where: QUT, Gardens Point Campus, S block – Room S301

The proposed Carmichael coal mine is a controversial project in Queensland's Galilee Basin. It is one of the world's largest coal mines, and is proposed for construction in close proximity to a set of springs that supports endemic ecosystems and that holds great importance to Indigenous Australians. The decision to approve the mine is underpinned by misconceptions and considerable uncertainty on the back of a few field measurements. Adrian Werner was an expert witness to the case, and reveals the process that ultimately led to approval on the mine despite critical and fundamental problems with the investigation into potential impacts caused by the mine void. Details of the hydrogeological misconceptions that accompanied the final decision are detailed in a recently published Journal of Hydrology article: Problems with the application of hydrogeological science to regulation of Australian mining projects: Carmichael Mine and Doongmabulla Springs.

If you're a regulator, consultant or proponent who's involved in hydrogeological assessments of major projects then you should attend this informative and topical presentation.



Bio: Adrian Werner is Professor of Hydrogeology at Flinders University, and a member of the National Centre for Groundwater Research and Training. Adrian currently holds an Australian Research Council Future Fellowship, through which he is leading a four-year investigation of Australia's coastal groundwater resources. Adrian spent his formative professional years working with the Queensland Government as a Water Resource Engineer, before completing his Ph.D. at the University of Queensland and then embarking on an academic career from 2006. He is an Associate Editor for *Advances in Water Resources* and *Journal of Hydrology*, and has published over 90 international journal articles.



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