**Project title:** Understanding environmental, social and governance (ESG) issues raised in public inquiries.

**Project duration, hours of engagement & delivery mode**
This is an 8 – 10 week project with the applicant working 20-36hrs per week). On-site work arrangements are preferred but remote arrangements will be made if COVID-19 restrictions apply during the project period.

**Description:**
The role of natural gas in the transition to low carbon energy has been contested. This project seeks to identify and map the range of stakeholders’ concerns about new gas project development by examining submissions to recent public consultation processes around the development of gas in the Northern Territory and New South Wales.

The idea is to construct a type of stakeholder analysis that will identify stakeholder groups and their concerns in relation to social, environmental and governance (ESG) issues. This project would suit students wishing to understand ESG pressures for companies, the influences of activism and participatory processes.

**Expected outcomes and deliverables:**
The scholar will have the opportunity to develop: knowledge of major government inquiry / assessment processes; skills in developing analytical frameworks; skills with text analysis software; and skills in working with a large qualitative dataset.

The scholar will produce a report, and options for preparing a publication will be explored.

**Suitable for:**
The successful applicant will have a strong interest in ESG, public inquiry processes and the role of activism in government and industry decision making. A background in social science, political science and/or stakeholder engagement would be useful.

**Primary Supervisor:** Dr Kathy Witt

**Further info:** Please contact Kathy Witt, Advance Queensland Research Fellow (k.witt@uq.edu.au)