

From: Stop Coal Seam Gas Blue Mountains <info@stopcsgbm.net.au>
To: <plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 12/12/2012 9:10 pm
Subject: Protect Greater Western Sydney from Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS: P.O. Box 468, Springwood, NSW, 2777.

Re: Camden Gas Project Stage 3, Project Application 09_0048

Please accept this as a submission on the Camden Gas Project Stage 3 Northern Expansion which is currently on public exhibition. I object to AGL's project application 09_0048 to drill for coal seam gas in Western Sydney.

This project should be rejected because the health and wellbeing of the people of Greater Western Sydney should rate higher than the profits of AGL who plan to expand their gas field around and under people's homes and businesses.

I urge you to reject the proposal by AGL to drill 66 new coal seam gas production wells on the grounds that:

- The environmental impact statement which accompanies AGL's application contains no reference whatsoever to the problem of fugitive methane emissions. In the light of the recent Southern Cross University findings which suggest possibly very high levels of such emissions, this is clearly an important issue that the industry needs to deal with in any environmental assessment.
- The impacts of horizontal drilling have not been adequately considered in the Environmental Assessment.
- Reports from Queensland and overseas show that there are serious risks to air quality and human health from unconventional gas drilling. However there have been no detailed studies done to quantify those risks especially in urban areas. The people of Camden and Campbelltown should not be treated like guinea pigs in a coal seam gas experiment.
- People's homes should not be undermined by coal seam gas drilling without their knowledge or permission.
- Homeowners face declining property values within and adjoining coal seam gas fields with some estimating house values may fall up to 30%.
- The integrity of gas wells can't be guaranteed and research from gas fields in Queensland and the US has shown many fail in their first few years. This will leave the community to deal with the impact of leaking wells on air quality and local water supplies.
- Despite research from Queensland and the US suggesting ground water contamination and gas leaks from fracking, the proposal by AGL will allow fracking.
- There are alternatives to coal seam gas, including renewable energy which can offer energy security without the unacceptable environmental and health risks posed by coal seam gas extraction.

Yours sincerely,
Stop Coal Seam Gas Blue Mountains