



Weston Aluminium Pty Ltd

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Department of Planning & Environment
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001
(via website submission)

Re: Queensland-Hunter Gas Pipeline – Modification 1

Dear Sir / Madam,

I refer to the proposal by Hunter Gas Pipeline Pty Ltd to extend the lapse date for the Queensland to Hunter Gas Pipeline development, currently Exhibited by the Department (MP 06_0286 MOD 1). On the behalf of Weston Aluminium Pty Limited – a significant gas consumer in the NSW market - I wish to provide support for the proposed extension.

Eastern States continue to experience shortages of natural gas, in particular due to maturing LNG export markets. We have experienced significant escalation in gas prices, which have more than doubled, placing significant cost pressures on businesses such as ours.

NSW currently imports the vast majority (95%) of its natural gas requirements from other States, particularly South Australia and Victoria. The proposed Queensland-Hunter Gas Pipeline project provides a viable opportunity for such gas reserves to be made available to NSW consumers. This will increase the supply and result in lower pipeline transportation costs, increasing competition and supply of gas, together with a shorter route to market. These factors will translate to downward pressure on delivered gas prices.

The proposed Queensland to Hunter Gas Pipeline will ensure that the Project supplies the Domestic NSW market (Hunter) rather than gas being diverted via a short-cut into the Moomba-to-Sydney Pipeline and ultimately the Gladstone LNG Plants in Queensland.

Manufacturers such as Weston Aluminium are being significantly impacted by gas shortages and competing gas markets, and we need to encourage and promote sensible gas project development within NSW. This will support the sustainability of the manufacturing sector within NSW, and associated employment viability and growth potential.

Yours sincerely,

Weston Aluminium Pty Ltd

Christopher McClung
Plant Services Manager