

From: Karin Hensen <kenroz@aapt.net.au>
To: Director General <plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 13/02/2011 10:02 pm
Subject: Gas Project - Additional Borehole Modification - Assessment 13th February 2011
22:02:15

Mining and Industry Projects
Department of Planning
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Sydney NSW 2001

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Email: plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au

Subject: Gas Project - Additional Borehole Modification - Assessment

Reference: MP.07 0103 - MOD 1

Dear Director General,

CSG is not an alternative to coal. It will increase, not decrease, Greenhouse Gas emissions. The extraction of CSG using the highly contentious fracking technique, has the potential to irreversibly contaminate our water supplies. Obviously opening cracks in the surface rock can only further exacerbate the loss of water from dams. Very recently it has emerged that despite one of the wettest years in a decade, water levels in Woronora Dam dropped from 41% to 33% from Jan 2010 to Jan 2011. It is the only main Sydney dam to record a drop; others in the same period have risen on average from 51% to 74%.

I call on Department of Planning to reject this amendment to the previous approval granted to Apex Energy NL for the purpose of additional exploration and gas monitoring borehole with associated infrastructure and site access.

I call on Department of Planning to immediately stop all Part3A applications.

I call on Department of Planning to include ALL previous submissions opposing inappropriate development in this area including:

- 1994 Helensburgh Commission of Inquiry;
- various rounds of submissions from 1995 to 2009 to Wollongong City Council on the rezoning of 7d lands at Helensburgh, Otford and Stanwell Park;
- over 3,00 submissions against the 2010 Willana Report; and
- the latest submissions in response to the Wollongong City Council "Preliminary Review Report" which total over 18,500 submissions.

Which total well over 45,000 submissions on these environmentally sensitive lands.

I also refer Department of Planning to Premier Keneally's decision to stop the Tillegra Dam in the face of 2,800 submissions against that project.

I quote "The project is not in the public interest" and "...the precautionary principle should be invoked..." and "...uncertainty about the impacts of the project..." and "...is of the view that the proposal is not in the public interest and should be refused..."

If 2,800 submissions can mobilize a Premier to stop a dam, Department of Planning must apply the same principles used by Premier Keneally in the Tillegra Dam and STOP this project entirely - construction has not started on Sydney Catchment Authority lands and NOW is the time to make sure it NEVER happens.

A two week period for submissions on such an important issue is clearly not in the public interest. I look forward to the Premier personally intervening to stop this project.

Yours faithfully,
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