

To the department of Planning and Environment.

I wish to lodge my objection to the proposed extension of time for AGL's commencement of work on the Dalton power plant project in Dalton NSW.

I bought my property in Dalton on Darby's road, only 2.5km from the proposed plant to enjoy the serenity, abundance of wildlife and peaceful country environment that Dalton has to offer.

I did not buy it to enjoy the hum of a gas fired turbine and inhale the toxic fumes expelled from the power plant. While I openly acknowledge AGL's claim it is more environmentally friendly than coal power, it is still not environmentally or human friendly. It's a bit like asking whether you would prefer to die from mesothelioma or pancreatic cancer. Neither has a positive outcome. Why make that a selling point? It's not friendly plain and simple.

There has been no consultation with myself or other owners in the close proximity that I am aware of. I have an email from AGL apologising to me for not informing me, but promising to keep me informed in the future. Trust is not something I'm seeing here. An apology for mistakes and secrecy does not buy my trust here. Recent legal action of AGLs inappropriate action in Newcastle also shows they cannot be trusted to do the right thing.

They claim to have done studies and predictions on the impact the plant will have, but will not confirm that this is the case. Are we supposed to just say "OK" and hope that they are right? The studies done are years old and are only predictions with vague results and implications. There seems to be no onus of responsibility to meet or commit to any parameters of noise or pollution.

Dalton prides itself on being a working community with almost no unemployment and a high standard of community spirit. AGL have promised work for the community. Have they done any research on this? I know the local community and other than the pub which might sell a few drinks to the workers, I can't think of single person who could get a job or work from this project.

They also claim to have enough water. I'd love to know how they came up with that idea. Yes it's wet currently but I have seen a lot of dry weather and drought conditions. Trucking water in past my gate everyday will not be pleasant for me, my family or my community. I have regularly seen the Lachlan River run dry and have numerous photos of it in recent times.

The noise alone is worthy of an objection. The peace and solitude in Dalton is only broken by birds, cattle and the occasional train passing through Gunning. I am now expected to listen to the drone of gas turbines in my peaceful country town. I quote from the upper Lachlan council website: "Welcome to Upper Lachlan, a shire of breathtaking beauty, robust seasons, outlandish bushranger history and unique rural charm. Located in the Southern Tablelands of New South Wales, just three hours from Sydney and 1.5 hours from Canberra, it has the feel of a secluded rural hideaway, which has been protected from the harshness of modern-day intrusions." I can't see this power plant fitting into that description.

A recent discovery of Southern Pygmy Perch in the Oolong River that is a threatened species and the Yellow spotted Bell frog that has not been seen in the wild for over 30 years, but recently seen in Blakeny Creek will once again become threatened should AGL start polluting the area

AGL's site is on the Lachlan River and I believe it poses a threat to the river as well as the surrounding area. No hydrocarbon byproduct can be deemed safe for a sensitive river area. What about all the people downstream of this long flowing river? AGL has shown no regard or concern for them.

While I state my reasons for not wanting the plant, my objection is to the extension they have applied for. I object on the grounds that they have had 5 years to make a decision and during this time have shown a clear disregard for the community and environment and are purely seeking an extension so they can hedge their bets for profit maximization using the section 3A which has now been repealed. The site chosen was selected on the basis that is the junction of the power line network and gas line so they can minimize expenses on transmission. I object to losing our great community and environment over a company's profit. They have had long enough and proved unworthy of an extension.

I would also like to point out that not only is AGL untrustworthy and too late, they know as well as everyone else that there are other options. We can see the wind turbines from our property and I work in the solar industry as a solar PV panel installer and can attest first hand to their exceptional environmentally friendly energy production.

I would like to conclude by quoting from the front page of the NSW Department of Planning and Environments website: "What we do. We exist to make people's lives better by making NSW a great place to live and work. We help to provide homes and services, build great communities, create jobs and protect the environment.

I ask then that you follow your own statement and make my life better by not allowing AGL to make it worse, and protect my environment by not allowing them more time to destroy it and our community.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

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