

11th April 2017

The Department of Planning and Environment

Dear Sir

We object very strongly to AGL being granted a two-year extension of time to consider if they would like to go ahead with their construction of a gas fired power station at Dalton. AGL has had 5 years to decide whether to build this plant or not, ample time.

If the economic climate has not been to AGLs liking why should the Dept. of Planning and Environment allow this extension of time to proceed. If they are granted this extra time and again do nothing in this period, in 2 years time AGL will be again seeking further extension. This cannot be allowed, and should not be allowed.

The whole project is totally unsuitable for this area. Dalton is a small quiet village that doesn't need or deserve to have this huge power station thrust upon it.

The noise created by such a facility will undoubtedly impact our small town and community, robbing us of the peace and tranquillity we have been used to. AGL would have us believe that it will only be run as a peaking station, but how will this be policed when the greed of AGL will most likely push to have this plant operate 24/7.

AGL tells us that the emissions released from this plant would be within the safe levels, I would also presume that when fibro was introduced as a building product the public would have been advised how safe it was to, and look where that went!

Pollution of ground water is also a concern. I am sure the residents of Oakey in Qld. had no idea that the firefighting chemicals PFOS and PFOA would make their bore water useless when again these chemicals would have been approved for use in the 1970s and continued for around 40 years.

As we understand it the power plant has settling ponds attached to it to collect run off. What happens in major weather events? I think we know the answer, the ponds would over flow running into the water courses downstream and into the Lachlan river. Now we have had a farming operation on the river for some time (since 1852) we don't want any of these toxic wastes polluting the water, nor do the rest of the water users downstream (and by downstream this would include the rest of the Lachlan river and into the Murray river.)

The Dalton AGL site is an area of 500 plus hectares which is covered in the noxious weed Serrated Tussock. AGL has been issued with weed notices from the Upper Lachlan Council, which requires the land owner to control their weeds. AGL has made no significant attempt to comply with this request. The repercussions of not controlling their weeds don't stop at their boundary they flow onto their neighbours by means of seeds from these plants being washed off their land onto adjoining land and yes once again down the water ways. AGL has said they would be a good community member/neighbour, if the controlling of their land management is any indication they will be the community member from hell. How can we trust them to look after their toxic wastes?

Possibly AGL might consider setting up solar farm on this site, similar to the 42-hectare solar farm at Royalla near Canberra, the area AGL holds at Dalton would facilitate a solar farm 12 times the size of Royalla avoiding 444000 metric tons of co2 from coal fired power stations per year and a considerable amount from gas fired stations.

Don't allow this extension of time.

Don't allow this power plant to go ahead.

History has so often told us the great ideas of today are the great disasters of tomorrow and haven't we seen some.

Don't let Dalton be one of those disasters of tomorrow.

Yours faithfully

Tony and Wendy Medway