"Reclaiming our Valley"

Hunter Communities Network

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Submission of Objection

Bayswater Power Station Turbine Efficiency Upgrade

The Hunter Communities Network (HCN) is an alliance of community based groups and individuals impacted by the current coal industry and concerned about the ongoing rapid expansion of coal and coal seam gas exploration and mining in the region.

The management of high levels of air pollution from coal mining and coal-fired power generation in the Hunter Region is very poor.

HCN objects to the proposed upgrade of Bayswater Power Station Efficiency Upgrade as exhibited because it fails to include pollution controls.

Bayswater is the single largest emitter of sulphur dioxide (SO_2), nitrous oxides (NO_x) and fine particle emissions ($PM_{2.5}$) in the Hunter Region.

Best practice technologies – either flue gas desulfurisation or selective catalytic reduction - can reduce toxic emissions of NOx and SO2 by 90% or more. Both of these technologies are obligatory in other countries such as the USA, the EU, China and India.

It is time that the health of communities in the Hunter Region has the same level of protection from power station pollution as people in other countries.

If AGL want to upgrade the Bayswater Power Station, it's time that they were required to upgrade the pollution controls.

Community members in the Hunter Region are very disappointed by the poor community consultation held on this project prior to and during the exhibition period. HCN received no notification of this project.

We urge the Department of Planning and Environment and the Environment Protection Authority to require AGL to install either flue gas desulfurisation or selective catalytic reduction technology to limit air pollution as a condition, if this project is approved.

Yours faithfully

B. Smiles

Bev Smiles

Convenor