

Mount Carmel Priory and Retreat Centre  
247 St Andrews Road  
Varroville NSW 2566  
(02) 8795 3452

Mining and Industry Projects  
Department of Planning  
GPO Box 39  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

7 February 2013

**Attention: Clay Preshaw**

Dear Sir/Madam

**Re: Camden Gas Project Stage 3, Project Application 09\_0048**

The Discalced Carmelite Friars, 247 St Andrews Road, Varroville, NSW, 2566, object to the planned northern expansion of the Camden Gas Field. **Our objections are identical to those presented in the submission of Rev Gregory Burke. We refer you to that submission as representing our own considered position.**

In particular however we wish to emphasise that we are strongly opposed to the proposed positioning of well VV03 very close to the border fence of the property enclosing Mount Carmel Retreat Centre.

Mt Carmel Retreat Centre is a place of peace and prayer. It is deliberately located in the Scenic Hills area to take advantage of the area's serenity and beauty for the benefit of numerous persons who seek such an environment for their spiritual and psychological well being.

Noise from VV03 will inevitably affect the Retreat Centre, particularly in the initial stages of the establishment of the well as the Retreat Centre grounds used by retreatants begin just metres from the proposed well and the buildings are just 600 metres distant.

In this light it is regrettable that AGL decided that 'Due to the remoteness of the location of VV03 from surrounding receivers a further noise assessment at this location was deemed not to be warranted at this stage'. The facts are

Construction of a 6-well WSL takes approximately 9 months (Detailed Responses to Submissions Report, p.26), of which at least 6 months will involve continuous drilling 24 hours a day 7 days a week. During the construction phase, a camp is set up to accommodate twenty (20) people.... Electricity may be provided by portable generators. Heavy vehicle movements are needed to transport equipment and water used in drilling (EA, Section 4.3-4.5, pp. 4-5 to 4-15) and to carry produced water away. Trenching for placement of gas gathering lines adds to the construction time. (Submission from the Discalced Carmelite Nuns, Varroville)

We add that our near neighbours are also in various degrees affected by VV03. In addition to that of Rev Gregory Burke we wish to endorse the positions presented in the respective submissions of

1. Sister Jocelyn Kramer OCD, PhD, on behalf of the Discalced Carmelite Nuns, Varroville
2. Jacqui Kirkby and Peter Gibbs of Varro Ville House, St Andrews Road, Varroville

Yours Sincerely

Rev Paul Maunder, OCD. Prior

Rev Shane Kelleher, OCD. Parish Priest

Rev Gregory Burke, OCD

Rev Gabriel Maliakkal, OCD