

**From:** Jose Macdonald <makingknown@bordnet.com.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/12/2012 7:31 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS: 73 Leslie Creek Rd Drake 2469

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

Please accept this as a submission on the Camden Gas Project Stage 3 Northern Expansion which is currently on public exhibition. I object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to drill for coal seam gas in Western Sydney.

Please put the health and wellbeing of the people of Greater Western Sydney above the profits of AGL who plan to expand their gas field around and under people's homes and businesses.

I urge you to reject the proposal by AGL to drill 66 new coal seam gas production wells on the grounds that:

- Reports from Queensland and overseas show that there are serious risks to air quality and human health from unconventional gas drilling. However there have been no detailed studies done to quantify those risks especially in urban areas. The people of Camden and Campbelltown should not be treated like guinea pigs in a coal seam gas experiment.
- People's homes should not be undermined by coal seam gas drilling without their knowledge or permission.
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- The impacts of horizontal drilling have not been adequately considered in the Environmental Assessment.
- There are alternatives to coal seam gas, including renewable energy which can offer energy security without the unacceptable environmental and health risks posed by coal seam gas extraction.

**From:** Shena Macdonald <shmacaroo@hotmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/17/2012 7:19 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

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Yours sincerely,  
Shena Macdonald

**From:** Jim Macintosh <el1jimbo@gmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/12/2012 11:30 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

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Yours sincerely,  
Jim Macintosh

**From:** duncan mackay <duncanmackay@live.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/12/2012 11:36 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

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Yours sincerely,  
duncan mackay



**From:** Chris Mackenzie <chrismackenzie1@bigpond.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/13/2012 8:34 am  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

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**From:** Iona Mackenzie <iona.mackenzie@gmail.com>  
**To:** plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au  
**Date:** 12/18/2012 11:09 am  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

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Yours sincerely,  
Iona Mackenzie

**From:** Paul & Morag MACKLIN <mormac33@bigpond.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/13/2012 3:16 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

33 KING St  
GLENBROOK 2773;

Re: Camden Gas Project Stage 3, Project Application 09\_0048 and future proposals

Please accept this as a submission on the Camden Gas Project Stage 3 Northern Expansion which is currently on public exhibition. I object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to drill for coal seam gas in Western Sydney.

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- Surely adverse effects on peoples health has to be of far greater importance than corporate profits.
- If there is any validity in the comment about running out of fuel resources then the obvious answer is to control exports to ensure Australia ongoing viability with existing safe fuel resources
- People's homes should not be undermined by coal seam gas drilling without their knowledge or permission.
- Homeowners face declining property values within and adjoining coal seam gas fields with some estimating house values may fall up to 30%.
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- The impacts of horizontal drilling have not been adequately considered in the Environmental Assessment.

Yours sincerely,  
Paul & Morag MACKLIN

**From:** Ariadne Macleod <ari.macleod@gmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/13/2012 6:17 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS: 321 Gibbs Road Nowergup Perth WA 6032

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

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Yours sincerely,  
Ariadne Macleod

**From:** alistair macnaughton <macbuild1@yahoo.com.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/14/2012 11:46 am  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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Yours sincerely,  
alistair macnaughton

**From:** Eileen Madigan <madiganea@gmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/15/2012 11:36 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS: 224 Tyagarah road Myocum NSW 2481

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

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Eileen Madigan

**From:** Patricia Magee <triciamagee@aapt.net.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/13/2012 1:03 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

20 Friday Hut Rd  
Coorabell  
NSW 2479

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**From:** Michael MAGGIOROS <mmaggioros@gmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/12/2012 10:08 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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**From:** Ananda Mahony <info@vitalenatural.com.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/12/2012 7:18 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS: 53 Kinnaird Street, Ashgrove Q 4060

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

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Ananda Mahony

**From:** Tom MAKDESSI <tommakdessi@hotmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/17/2012 4:31 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

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**From:** Jason Makeig <liquidlight@activ8.net.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/13/2012 5:39 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

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Jason Makeig

**From:** Nea Makowski <nea@exemail.com.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/17/2012 12:42 pm  
**Subject:** Camden Gas Project Stage 3, Project Application 09\_0048  
**Attachments:** Submission csg 161212.docx

17 December 2012



Ms N Makowski  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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

Department of Planning  
Received  
19 DEC 2012  
Scanning Room

*Sent by email to [plan\\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au) and by post.*

Dear Sir/Madam,

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

I object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 ("Stage 3 project") to mine for coal seam gas in Campbelltown and Camden. The main reasons for my objection are as follows.

CSG risks

I am concerned about the risks of CSG extraction due to the negative impacts evidenced throughout the USA (gas extraction from coal seams and shale); in QLD (coal seam gas extraction causing irreversible damage to underground aquifers and the Great Artesian Basin, damage to drinking water, creeks and rivers, air quality, fires burning out of control, health problems amongst residents and animals, and plummeting property values; in NSW in the Pillaga Forest where the mismanagement of CSG exploration has resulted in serious environmental damage; and in AGL's Camden Gas Project where to date there has been non-compliance with licence conditions (EPL No. 12003) in every year since this licence was issued in 2004. There have been minimal groundwater tests conducted in the early stages of this particular project, therefore resulting in no adequate baseline studies to compare later studies to, and I have not heard of any baseline air quality studies being conducted prior to the start of that project.

Although AGL has been operating under an Environmental Protection Licence (EPL no. 12003) it has been allowed by the State government to self-monitor its compliance, self-investigate incidents and self-report. Any consultants and laboratories engaged by AGL could never be truly independent.

Water

I attended AGL's "drop-in" session in Campbelltown on 1 December 2012. This session lasted for only two hours (due to the venue opening half an hour later than the designated

starting time for the session) on a Saturday morning. I note the ads in local newspapers specified an RSVP date. Not surprisingly, an extremely limited number of locals attended (my estimate is less than 10).

I was informed by staff there that the **quality of water** in and around the coal seams, known as "produced water" is of no value because it shares the same salinity as a salt water swimming pool. They told me that once the gas is separated from the water, salt and chemicals used in the mining process, the water is trucked to Windsor where it is filtered and reused in industry such as brick-making. I was not informed what happens to the salt and the chemicals.

These chemicals used in the hydraulic fracture stimulation process ("fracking") were described to me as "food grade" but considering many food grade chemicals are in fact toxic, shouldn't truly independent scientists be given the necessary time to analyse the list which AGL has given to the NSW Government (pp 37-38 Camden Gas Project Northern Expansion Submissions Report October 2012) to understand how these chemicals will interact under the ground in the saline conditions and in combination with each other, and any results then be reported to the public as part of an appropriate consultative process?

Further, many residents feel it is reasonably foreseeable that in removing water from in and around the coal seam, any resultant cracking or dislodgement of the underground soil levels could damage aquifers, such that moisture levels in the upper soils could drain down to these deeper levels, thereby drying out the upper layers. Can AGL guarantee the health and longevity of all plant-life and watercourses on our land above and around these areas where the mining removes groundwater?

Another question is where the **aquifers** under Campbelltown and Camden flow to. Do they flow towards the water catchment area of Sydney? AGL staff have apparently advised they do not know where the aquifers in our area flow to, but "probably Sydney harbour". Is this a flippant comment intended to allay any concerns about Sydney's drinking water?

As for the Upper Canal which runs through the Scenic Hills (both the Campbelltown and Camden local government areas) towards Prospect Reservoir, AGL plans to run their main gas gathering pipeline beside (or under?) this Heritage Listed water channel which was constructed in the 1880's and provides Sydney's backup water supply, with access tracks at times running alongside this canal. I note the NSW Government's *Sydney Catchment Authority's Guidelines* ([http://www.sca.nsw.gov.au/data/assets/pdf\\_file/0013/13207/Guidelines-for-Development-adjacent-to-the-Upper-Canal-and-Warragamba-Pipelines.pdf](http://www.sca.nsw.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0013/13207/Guidelines-for-Development-adjacent-to-the-Upper-Canal-and-Warragamba-Pipelines.pdf)) which relevantly provide:

- "1. The Upper Canal and Warragamba Pipelines corridors are essential public Infrastructure whose key purpose is the supply of drinking water to the Greater Metropolitan Sydney region. Water supply infrastructure must always be safe and serviceable.**

- a. **The SCA will not approve development proposed by external parties within the corridors unless:**
    - i. the development is for the purpose of essential infrastructure and services that cannot be feasibly located elsewhere; and
    - ii. **the proponent can ensure to the satisfaction of the SCA that there will be no adverse impact on the Upper Canal and Warragamba Pipelines infrastructure. Infrastructure and services must not compromise the SCA's future proposals for canal and pipeline infrastructure.**
  - b. **The SCA will not support development or planning proposals adjoining the corridors unless it can be shown that there will be no adverse impact on the Upper Canal and Warragamba Pipeline infrastructure.**
2. Water quality and quantity within the Upper Canal and Warragamba Pipelines corridors must be maintained and protected.
- a. The SCA will not approve infrastructure and services proposed by external providers within the corridors unless the providers can ensure to the satisfaction of the SCA that there will be a neutral or beneficial effect on water quality and quantity.
  - b. **The SCA will not support development or planning proposals adjoining the corridors unless it can be shown that there will be a neutral or beneficial effect on water quality and quantity."**

Is AGL immune to these requirements or can they prove to the Government and the public prior to any approval of this project that they will not breach these requirements?

Interestingly, I note that the State government has just appointed to the Board of the Sydney Catchment Authority a former Liberal Party official with strong ties to the mining industry, Mr Mark Bethwaite (Sarah Gerathy, ABC, Yahoo 7 News website updated 10/12/12). What are the residents of Sydney supposed to make of this?

Of further concern is the **Georges River**, which is within the Subsurface Project Area (see attached map). Can AGL guarantee that any gas extraction from under or around this river or nearby aquifers will not damage the river, its accompanying bushland reserve which runs from St Helens Park to Airds and Ruse, and across to Holsworthy, or the diverse wildlife in this area (which includes koala and platypus populations)?

I would like to complain at this point about an AGL map (attached) which is ambiguous about whether gas gathering lines lay under or next to roads and/or rivers/creeks. Is this AGL's idea of community consultation? Will roads and/or pathways and any part of the Upper Canal be dug up by AGL?

### Hydraulic fracture stimulation

I was informed during this session by Jenny O'Brien (AGL Community Relations Manager) and a fellow staff member of AGL (Andrew?) that AGL will **not be fracking** in the Stage 3 Project, unlike in the earlier stages in Camden because that they now employ "horizontal drilling" techniques. They explained in detail the method of forcing water containing salt and food grade chemicals under high pressure into the well to fracture the coal seam in order to release the gas. If water is pumped into the wells in this manner after horizontal drilling has been carried out, I am unable to see a substantial difference between this and fracking.

I have since heard that although AGL claims the use of horizontal wells in the Stage 3 Project will *reduce* the need for fracking, it seems this is not entirely true since it has reserved the right to fracture stimulate these wells in the future if/when the technology becomes available. Further, in a letter to the editor of the Macarthur Chronicle on 11 December 2012, David Kelly (Head of Land Approvals, Upstream Gas) stated **"AGL has not ruled out hydraulic fracturing, but if the proposal is approved we intend to use horizontal drilling which we do not fracture stimulate and which minimises above-ground impact."** This is **not** an unequivocal statement that AGL will not use fracture stimulation to release coal seam gas in the Stage 3 Project.

How can the community trust AGL to do the right thing under their land when AGL staff lied to residents on 1 December 2012?

Recommendation 9 of the Upper House Inquiry requested an extension of a fracking ban until the fracking chemicals are fully assessed. I note the government response that it will lift the fracking moratorium, yet the initial assessment of approximately 100 fracking chemicals "is likely to take 18 months". Although the government has rightly banned the use of BTEX chemicals, I fail to understand how the government response ensures the safety and transparency of AGL's operations now and within the 18 month period this "initial assessment" is expected to take.

### Traffic

I dispute AGL's claim that traffic will not significantly increase. From my understanding, heavy truck movements will significantly increase between the hours of 1am and 6am in particular, and these truck movements are on public roads, many within residential areas, and also on access tracks to well-sites, some of which are very close to or directly next to residential areas and schools. I have not met anybody who lives near the well-sites or access roads at Currans Hill and Eschol Park who received an impromptu visit from AGL staff for the single purpose of informing them of plans to place industrial infrastructure close to their homes, and none received letters about the company's intentions.

In relation to the Eschol Park wells (CU 26 and CU 29) I believe from the attached map and from speaking to residents in Chasselas Ave, Eschol Park, that the access track will be via a property on the corner of Badgally Road and St Andrews Road. So far my reading of AGL documentation has shown public roads will be used. I note from p.125 of the Camden Gas



Project Northern Expansion Submissions Report October 2012 that "Similarly, due to changes to the proposed access to CU26 and CU29, there would be no traffic generated by the Amended Project through Eschol Park." I would appreciate receiving further information on this, particularly relating to Badgally Road and Eaglevale Drive, and I reserve the right to further comment or lodge a complaint once I have read further material.

#### Perceived attitude of AGL and the NSW Government

Although I am disappointed Campbelltown Council has not done more to protect the **Scenic Hills** in Campbelltown which are **zoned Environmental Protection (prohibiting extractive industries and mines)**, I am more disappointed to see the NSW Government's attitude towards concerned residents of Campbelltown/Camden (as evidenced by Mr Hazzard's "antics", Channel 7 news 27 November 2012, <http://au.news.yahoo.com/nsw/latest/a/-/newshome/15461992/exclusive-cross-city-csg-drilling/>). Despite the State Labor party's granting of the exploration licences, and permitting a 5 year royalty-free period of payments to the State, if Mr Hazzard's views are reflected amongst the rest of the Liberal government, then the state Liberal Party's resounding win in Campbelltown at the 2011 election will be a never-repeated event.

The exploitation of this **non-renewable** source of energy which I understand to have a **high carbon footprint** (Paddy Manning, "What the Frack?", published 2012) would go some way towards filling the coffers of the NSW state government, and save AGL any costs involved with contracting with third parties to supply gas to NSW. But BHP has assured the public that it can easily provide enough conventional gas (without the risks inherent in CSG extraction) to the eastern states for an unlimited time.

The Upper House Inquiry recommended monitoring of decommissioned well integrity for five to twenty years. This is vitally important because these wells pose the greatest risk to health, water quality and the environment generally. The government response that they will consider "expanding the monitoring of decommissioned wells using a risk based approach" is completely inadequate.

In relation to point 11 of the Upper House Inquiry, the government assures us that coal seam gas companies are "already responsible for the full costs of rehabilitating any environmental impacts". What if homes and property are damaged (whether real estate or not)? What if rivers and creeks are damaged? What if health problems impact the residents of these areas. What right to compensation do the homeowners of Campbelltown and Camden have during the project life and into the future? How would it be assessed?

Many new residents of Gregory Hills and Currans Hill were not aware of plans for CSG mining under their new homes because the plans have not been approved. Obviously the ethics of staff at local sales offices and local real estate agents, can be called into question, but ultimately people are buying into an area without being told there are plans to mine for coal seam gas under their new home. **AGL and the government are not taking enough steps to make new residents aware of the risks they may face before they commit themselves so heavily.**

**AGL's claims they have adequately consulted with our community in relation to their application are inaccurate and unreliable.** The ads in the local papers from AGL have not been seen by 99% of residents I have canvassed living in streets closest to the proposed well-sites. If AGL was serious about community consultation they would have ensured a letterbox drop of a well-written leaflet containing honest details to the **entire** Campbelltown and Camden areas affected by AGL's proposed Stage 3 plans, not just random streets. I do not know the number of houses they letterbox-dropped, however nobody I have spoken to was aware of having received any AGL leaflets. I believe that Schools and pre-schools have not been notified either.

Fortunately for me, I did receive a leaflet in my letterbox one leaflet entitled "AGL Camden Gas Project. June 2012 Project". Its assertion that it will make further information available "in the months" [ahead?] "in a variety of ways including letterbox drops, advertorial in the local media, community open days at Rosalind Park Gas Plant and the Camden Project area, community information sessions, and mailout distributions" is a gross overstatement. Despite being a Campbelltown resident living within the surface project area I have not received any further AGL letterbox drops nor a personal invitation to attend any information session as to the impact on the surrounding areas.

I would also like to point out that the words "mine" and "mining" were not used once in this leaflet. If AGL was committed to an open and transparent approach throughout the life of the Project they have not made a good start.

AGL's methods of adaptive management do not engender trust within the community either – there seems to be such a rush to push this project into full operation as quickly as possible, when most of the community feels concerned that not enough preliminary studies have been done. Why not impose a ban on coal seam gas extraction until the relevant research has been done? Currently the Camden Project accounts for only 5-6% of NSW's gas supply. Surely the concerns of the National Water Commission, the National Toxics network and Doctors for the Environment should be given time to be researched properly. If the safety of this unconventional mining operation can be guaranteed then residents might feel more amenable to coal seam gas mining within their communities.

Residents would like to know whether compensation will be available for health problems, river damage, catchment poisoning, house damage from subsidence, and diminishment of property values (which was discussed at the Senate Inquiry 2011), including all Heritage Listed properties. Truly independent studies on the likelihood of these occurring should be carried out and it should be *proven* to the residents of NSW that mining and residential and/or rural areas can truly co-exist.

Why does AGL and the NSW Government put the onus on the people of south western Sydney to prove what damage could occur as a result of mining CSG from under our homes and rivers? The onus should be firmly on AGL. To say any damage would be minimal is unacceptable given the value of this land environmentally and economically to both the State and the communities of Campbelltown/Camden. To place such infrastructure right next to Sydney's Upper Canal defies logic.

## Conclusion

The communities in Campbelltown and Camden are shocked by AGL's sense of entitlement to extract coal seam gas from around and underneath their homes and properties. We are expected to believe AGL when they say CSG mining within our communities can harmoniously co-exist within residential and Environmentally Protected areas. Where is the proof? There has been insufficient community consultation and insufficient baseline studies done to ensure a right for these communities to compensation if anything goes wrong.

Why can't 5 year baseline studies in relation to air and water quality be conducted prior to granting AGL licences to build wells. Residents should not be bullied by AGL or the NSW government into accepting something which they have honest and grave concerns about.

The community here is angry at the due date for submissions being 18 December 2012, one week before Christmas. Most of the residents I have spoken to have only recently become aware of AGL's application and are of the opinion that this date was chosen unfairly in favour of AGL, as many residents do not have the time or ability to construct an informed and heartfelt submissions at this time of year.

The perceived arrogance of AGL and the NSW Government in relation to this issue has created a murmur amongst western Sydney which is growing into a deafening roar. If our elected government does not listen to its constituents people will take matters into their own hands.

*"When all the trees have been cut down,  
when all the animals have been hunted,  
when all the waters are polluted,  
when all the air is unsafe to breathe,  
only then will you discover you cannot eat money."*

*~ Cree Prophecy ~*

I acknowledge that my name will appear on my submission when publicly exhibited.

Yours sincerely,

*(but not my address)*



Nea Makowski



**From:** Jimmy Malecki <jimmy@jimmymalecki.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/17/2012 4:22 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

Please accept this as a submission on the Camden Gas Project Stage 3 Northern Expansion which is currently on public exhibition. I object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to drill for coal seam gas in Western Sydney. I have done research into this industries activities around the world and it is not a safe industry for the health of people, water and the environment.

Please put the health and wellbeing of the people of Greater Western Sydney above the profits of AGL who plan to expand their gas field around and under people's homes and businesses.

I urge you to reject the proposal by AGL to drill 66 new coal seam gas production wells on the grounds that:

- Reports from Queensland and overseas show that there are serious risks to air quality and human health from unconventional gas drilling. However there have been no detailed studies done to quantify those risks especially in urban areas. The people of Camden and Campbelltown should not be treated like guinea pigs in a coal seam gas experiment.
- People's homes should not be undermined by coal seam gas drilling without their knowledge or permission.
- Homeowners face declining property values within and adjoining coal seam gas fields with some estimating house values may fall up to 30%.
- The integrity of gas wells can't be guaranteed and research from gas fields in Queensland and the US has shown many fail in their first few year. This will leave the community to deal with the impact of leaking wells on air quality and local water supplies.
- New research from Southern Cross University on methane gas leaks from coal seam gas fields has not been considered in the proposal. AGL has not conducted these studies to account for methane leakage on their existing coal seam gas wells.
- Despite research from the Queensland and the US suggesting ground water contamination and gas leaks from fracking, the proposal by AGL will allow fracking.
- The impacts of horizontal drilling have not been adequately considered in the Environmental Assessment.
- There are alternatives to coal seam gas, including renewable energy which can offer energy security without the unacceptable environmental and health risks posed by coal seam gas extraction.

Yours sincerely,  
Jimmy Malecki

[Type the date] 11-12-12



[Type your name & address...and organisation, if applicable]

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

Stephen MALLETT  
32 Vauxhall Place  
INGLEBURN

Sent by email to plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au [delete this if sending by fax or mail]

Dear Sir/Madam

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

[I/we] object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to mine for coal seam gas in Campbelltown and Camden. The reasons for [my/our] objection are stated below.

[State your reasons here]

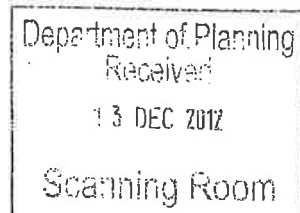
- The refusal of NSW Govt. to release report on the safety or lack thereof of 'fracking'
- industrialisation of the 'lungs of the South West' Scone Hills
- gas pipeline running beside Sydney Upper Canal water supplies

[State if you do not want your name made public on the Department's website or to AGL]

Yours sincerely

[your name & title]

Mr. Stephen MALLETT



**From:** Chris Mallory <ezwayup@gmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/14/2012 10:01 am  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

Please accept this as a submission on the Camden Gas Project Stage 3 Northern Expansion which is currently on public exhibition. I object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to drill for coal seam gas in Western Sydney.

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- The impacts of horizontal drilling have not been adequately considered in the Environmental Assessment.
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Yours sincerely,  
Chris Mallory

**From:** Frederick Malouf <bondilocal@gmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/17/2012 8:10 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

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Yours sincerely,  
Frederick Malouf



**From:** mel mandeno <mninos@ihug.com.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/12/2012 6:43 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

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Yours sincerely,  
mel mandeno

**From:** ross manley <lumox3@gmail.com>  
**To:** plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au  
**Date:** 12/20/2012 9:46 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

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Yours sincerely,  
ross manley

**From:** Julian Mann <julianmann25@gmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/15/2012 1:03 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

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**From:** patricia mann <trishmann7@gmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/13/2012 8:20 am  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS: 16 greenvale crt burringbar

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

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Yours sincerely,  
patricia mann

[New South Wales Government](#)

[Department of Planning](#)

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**sam mannah, of Littles, made the following submission on the project:**

## **Camden Gas Project Stage 3 Northern Expansion**



### **Objects to this project**

I do not want any Coal seam gas projects, drilling<Fracking, wells or anything related to it, go to the middle of the dessert were there is no population, I say no to exploration in populated areas especially in Kearns, Eschol Park, Camden, we are the people we have a right to reject it and stop it so the generation to come do not suffer the consequences.

**From:** Doug Manning <doug.ingrid@spin.net.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/13/2012 7:30 am  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

Please accept this as a submission on the Camden Gas Project Stage 3 Northern Expansion which is currently on public exhibition. I object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to drill for coal seam gas in Western Sydney.

Please put the health and wellbeing of the people of Greater Western Sydney above the profits of AGL who plan to expand their gas field around and under people's homes and businesses.

I urge you to reject the proposal by AGL to drill 66 new coal seam gas production wells on the grounds that:

- Reports from Queensland and overseas show that there are serious risks to air quality and human health from unconventional gas drilling. However there have been no detailed studies done to quantify those risks especially in urban areas. The people of Camden and Campbelltown should not be treated like guinea pigs in a coal seam gas experiment.
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- The impacts of horizontal drilling have not been adequately considered in the Environmental Assessment.
- There are alternatives to coal seam gas, including renewable energy which can offer energy security without the unacceptable environmental and health risks posed by coal seam gas extraction.

Yours sincerely,  
Doug Manning

35 Columbia Street  
KEARNS NSW 2558  
14<sup>th</sup> December 2012

Mining & Industries Project  
Department of Planning  
P O Box 39  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Sent by email to [plan\\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au)

Dear Sir/Madam

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

I object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to mine for coal seam gas in the Campbelltown/Camden area. The reasons for my objection are stated below.

Campbelltown & Camden are largely residential areas, with areas such as the Scenic Hills set aside to allow residents to maintain a green buffer around the city. Residential areas should never be subjected to coal seam gas mining, as the word itself, "residential" means just that, a place for people to reside. No-one who buys in a residential area, should expect to be living beside gas wells.

CSG mining is still a technologically-evolving industry whose impacts have not been fully researched and remain unknown.

Reports coming out of Queensland communities where fracking has been taking place, raise serious concerns about health issues arising from CSG mining.

In particular air quality and the increase in respiratory problems for residents in nearby areas.

I fear that in years to come we will have another "Asbestos" situation on our hands.

Who will wear the cost of a possible class action against the Government? The taxpayers of course.

Australia has vast areas of land where CSG could take place with no impact on anyone. It should not take place in residential or farming areas.

Yours faithfully

Christine Manns

**From:** ANNE MANSON <annemanson@bigpond.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/13/2012 9:39 am  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

3 Stuart Street  
Gympie Qld 4570

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

Please accept this as a submission on the Camden Gas Project Stage 3 Northern Expansion which is currently on public exhibition. I object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to drill for coal seam gas in Western Sydney.

Please put the health and wellbeing of the people of Greater Western Sydney above the profits of AGL who plan to expand their gas field around and under people's homes and businesses.

I urge you to reject the proposal by AGL to drill 66 new coal seam gas production wells on the grounds that:

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- The impacts of horizontal drilling have not been adequately considered in the Environmental Assessment.
- There are alternatives to coal seam gas, including renewable energy which can offer energy security without the unacceptable environmental and health risks posed by coal seam gas extraction.

Yours sincerely,  
ANNE MANSON



**From:** Cheryl Manson <back.magic@bigpond.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/14/2012 11:13 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

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Yours sincerely,  
Cheryl Manson

**From:** alexandra manzi fe <alexis@centreforchange.net>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/12/2012 8:03 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

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- There are alternatives to coal seam gas, including renewable energy which can offer energy security without the unacceptable environmental and health risks posed by coal seam gas extraction.

**From:** roslyn march <march@ozemail.com.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/12/2012 11:57 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

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- There are alternatives to coal seam gas, including renewable energy which can offer energy security without the unacceptable environmental and health risks posed by coal seam gas extraction.

Yours sincerely,  
roslyn march

**From:** Susie Marcroft <susiemarcroft@gmail.com>  
**To:** plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au  
**Date:** 12/27/2012 1:55 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

Please accept this as a submission on the Camden Gas Project Stage 3 Northern Expansion which is currently on public exhibition. I object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to drill for coal seam gas in Western Sydney.

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Yours sincerely,  
Susie Marcroft

**From:** Ben Maron <brmaron@gmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/18/2012 6:11 am  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS: 14 Wangara Street Aranda ACT 2614

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

Please accept this as a submission on the Camden Gas Project Stage 3 Northern Expansion which is currently on public exhibition. I object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to drill for coal seam gas in Western Sydney.

As a person who works in the area a few times a year I am deeply concerned about the impact of CSG mining for local residents.

Please put the health and wellbeing of the people of Greater Western Sydney above the profits of AGL who plan to expand their gas field around and under people's homes and businesses.

I urge you to reject the proposal by AGL to drill 66 new coal seam gas production wells on the grounds that:

- Reports from Queensland and overseas show that there are serious risks to air quality and human health from unconventional gas drilling. However there have been no detailed studies done to quantify those risks especially in urban areas. The people of Camden and Campbelltown should not be treated like guinea pigs in a coal seam gas experiment.
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Yours sincerely,  
Ben Maron



14-12-12

①

FROM DENNIS MARSHALL

42. DARWIN RS.

CAMPBELLTOWN 2560

TO MINING & INDUSTRY PROJECTS

DEPT OF PLANNING

G.P.O. BOX 39

SYDNEY 2001.

Department of Planning  
Received

19 DEC 2012

Scanning Room

DEAR SIR/MADAM

RE: CAMDEN GAS PROJECT STAGE 3

PROJECT APPLICATION 09-0048

I OBJECT TO AGL'S APPLICATION 09-0048  
TO MINE FOR COAL SEAM GAS IN CAMPBELLTOWN  
AND CAMDEN. MY REASONS ARE AS FOLLOWS.

1. HEALTH OUR COMMUNITY WILL RISK VERY  
SERIOUS BREATHING AND BLEEDING PROBLEMS  
(ESPECIALLY THE CHILDREN) SIMILAR TO WHAT  
HAS OCCURRED IN OTHER REGIONS SUCH AS  
LISMORE, NSW AND TARA, QLD.

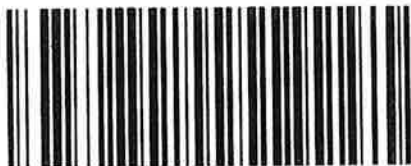
2 WATER QUALITY, THE METHODS AND CHEMICALS USED TO ACCESS THE GAS CAN POISON THE AQUIFERS AND THE RUN OFF WILL POLLUTE SURFACE WATERWAYS.

3 QUALITY OF LIFE WE DON'T WANT OUR PEACEFUL SUBURBAN LIFESTYLE TO BE INDUSTRIALISED AND MADE NOISY FOR THE VERY SHORT-TERM GAIN OF THIS MASSIVE COMPANY.

4 PROPERTY VALUES THOSE OF US WHOSE PROPERTIES ARE CLOSE TO WELL SURFACE LOCATIONS ETC. WILL FIND IT HARD TO SELL AND VALUES WILL OBVIOUSLY FALL.

YOURS SINCERELY

D. Mitchell



PCU040070

14-12-12

FROM ELLEN MARSHALL

42 DARWIN RD

CAMPBELLTOWN 2560

TO MINING + INDUSTRY PROJECTS

DEPT of PLANNING

G.P.O. BOX 39

SYDNEY 2001

Dear Sir/Madam

RE: Camden Gas Project STAGE 3  
PROJECT APPLICATION 09-0048.

I strongly object to A.G.L. COAL SEAM  
GAS MINING in the Campbelltown area  
for the reasons stated below.

1. Serious health issues will prevail  
as in other areas, where skin rashes,  
ear and nose bleeding in children  
and adults has occurred.

Department of Planning  
Received

17 DEC 2012

Scanning Room



2

2/ Air quality will suffer, as will the environment of the area.

3/ Local waterways and the aquifers will be badly affected by the chemicals used.

4/ People were encouraged to settle here with young families as an ideal place to rear their children, with no thought of such unhealthy industrial developments taking place in the future.

Yours sincerely

E. Marshall.

**From:** Jane Martin <janemartin5555@gmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/17/2012 4:55 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS: 179 Kesbys Rd Eungai Creek 2441

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

Please accept this as a submission on the Camden Gas Project Stage 3 Northern Expansion which is currently on public exhibition. I object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to drill for coal seam gas in Western Sydney.

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Yours sincerely,  
Jane Martin

**From:** Jessica Martin <balancingact@skymesh.com.au>  
**To:** plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au  
**Date:** 12/19/2012 7:39 am  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

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Yours sincerely,  
Jessica Martin

**From:** judith martin <judy.martin@mgd.com.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/13/2012 12:30 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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Yours sincerely,  
judith martin

**From:** Leonard Martin <pteropus42@smartchat.net.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/13/2012 9:50 am  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

2345A Nimbin Road, Nimbin, NSW 2480

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

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Yours sincerely,  
Leonard Martin

To: <sup>1</sup>  
Mining and Industry Projects  
Department of Planning  
GPO Box 39  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Sir/Madam

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

I object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to mine for coal seam gas (CSG) in Campbelltown and Camden. The key reasons for my objection are stated below.

I am concerned that CSG mining is a technologically-evolving industry whose impacts have not been independently and scientifically fully researched and remain largely unknown. This view is supported by professional organisations and academics in evidence to the NSW Upper House and Senate Inquiries into Coal Seam Gas Mining in 2011 and by subsequent research here and overseas. We have had to rely on the industry for much of our information when the industry has a vested interest in the outcome. AGL is no different. It claims that the Camden Gas Project has been safely operating for 10 years. Yet we understand that impacts on groundwater and air quality have not been adequately monitored, and while AGL has been operating under an Environmental Protection Licence (EPL No. 12003), it has been allowed to self-monitor its compliance, self-investigate incidents and self-report such that we do not know what true impacts it may have had. Third party consultants and external laboratories that are engaged and paid for by the industry are not *independent*. Nor is any funded or co-funded research by the CSG mining industry. These lessons should have been learnt with asbestos in Australia and with 'Big Tobacco' in the USA. The National Water Commission in its Position Statement (3<sup>rd</sup> December 2010) said that impacts may emerge over a long time period. I am deeply concerned that the costs of unforeseen problems will be borne by the community and taxpayers after AGL is long gone from the area. This is grossly irresponsible.

Doctors for the Environment Australia claims that health impacts from CSG mining have not been assessed. Preliminary research from Queensland (e.g. by Southern Cross University in Tara) and overseas is deeply concerning, especially where fracking has been used. As at December 2011, 85% of the production wells in the Camden Gas Project had been fracked (evidence from the NSW Upper House Inquiry) with inadequate monitoring of its impacts on water in particular. AGL claims that the use of horizontal wells in the proposed Stage 3 will reduce the need for fracking, but it seems that this is not entirely true since it has reserved the right to frack these wells in the future if/when the technology becomes available. The size of the proposed well clusters and any fracking of horizontal wells are both new and untested here. It will therefore be entirely experimental with unknown outcomes on health and property including the possibility of subsidence under so many urban properties.

I am also concerned about evidence from Queensland and overseas on air quality and the cumulative impact of AGL's expansion into an area that already experiences incidents of unacceptable levels of air pollution (ozone and fine particles) associated with respiratory problems (NSW Environmental Protection Authority). AGL's past performance gives no confidence that it has not already contributed to this or that it can be managed in the future,



having admitted in August this year that it had not conducted continuous air monitoring at its Rosalind Park Gas Treatment Plant for three years in breach of its EPL No.12003.

Allowing CSG mining in areas that are not zoned for heavy industry undermines zoning controls and confidence in the planning process, and creates severe land use conflicts, economic instability and inequity. It will disrupt religious communities whose vocations have so far been protected by the Scenic Hills zoning; it will place undue burden on small rural allotments whose capacity to cope is severely reduced by size (thereby threatening the survival of the entire historic Scenic Hills), and it is unsightly and unsafe in urban areas with a potential escalation in CSG mining incidents and accidents associated with the more intense urban activity (traffic, people etc.), the presence of children, and potential for vandalism. The consequent impact on land and house values for existing land and home owners may be devastating. For many people the home is their largest asset and is often leveraged to support small business. Any devaluation by bank assessors may destroy livelihoods and life savings.

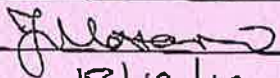
I do not believe that the NSW Government's new regulations for CSG mining will ensure its safe operation here. As the only commercially producing CSG field in NSW, the Camden Gas Project has already been operating under consent conditions. Yet the NSW Government has not been able to ensure compliance, as evidenced by on-going breaches by AGL of its licence conditions, and the discovery of incidents that might not have been reported were it not for community vigilance, such as the Sugarloaf well incident in May 2011 in Menangle that allowed well contents to drift over Sydney's water channel and to nearby Glen Alpine houses.

The proposal poses risks to Sydney's water in general and to the South West in particular that have not been adequately assessed. While AGL claims that the *geology of the Sydney Basin is well known*, AGL's rationale for the constant modification of prior stages of the Camden Gas Project seems to contradict this, as does its admission to the Scenic Hills Association that it does not know where the aquifers here run to but *probably Sydney Harbour*. Potential impacts on Sydney Harbour, on the nearby Sydney Water Catchment, and AGL's proposal to run its gas gathering pipeline along Sydney's Upper Canal on public land are unacceptable risks to Sydney's water, and are an abuse of public property for the benefit of private investors.

AGL will only ever produce about 5% of NSW's gas from the Camden Gas Project according to evidence it gave under oath at the NSW Upper House Inquiry. This does not justify the risks and potential costs to the community, particularly since 150,000+ people already live and work in the immediate affected area, and this is in Sydney's south west growth corridor. It is socially, environmentally and economically unjustified, and has no social licence to operate here.

I acknowledge that my name will appear on my submission when publicly exhibited.

Yours sincerely

Name	JASMINKA MASANOVIC
Address	5 ANN CRES
	MT PRITCHARD 2170
Signature	
Date	18/12/12.

**From:** Terry Mason <t.mason@uws.edu.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/17/2012 4:58 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

29 Pepper St  
Panania

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

Please accept this as a submission on the Camden Gas Project Stage 3 Northern Expansion which is currently on public exhibition. I object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to drill for coal seam gas in Western Sydney.

Please put the health and wellbeing of the people of Greater Western Sydney above the profits of AGL who plan to expand their gas field around and under people's homes and businesses.

I urge you to reject the proposal by AGL to drill 66 new coal seam gas production wells on the grounds that:

- Reports from Queensland and overseas show that there are serious risks to air quality and human health from unconventional gas drilling. However there have been no detailed studies done to quantify those risks especially in urban areas. The people of Camden and Campbelltown should not be treated like guinea pigs in a coal seam gas experiment.
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- Homeowners face declining property values within and adjoining coal seam gas fields with some estimating house values may fall up to 30%.
- The integrity of gas wells can't be guaranteed and research from gas fields in Queensland and the US has shown many fail in their first few year. This will leave the community to deal with the impact of leaking wells on air quality and local water supplies.
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- The impacts of horizontal drilling have not been adequately considered in the Environmental Assessment.
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Yours sincerely,  
Terry Mason



**From:** Shima Masoumi <s.masoumi@hotmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/17/2012 11:56 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

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Yours sincerely,  
Shima Masoumi

**From:** Andrea Masters <swimplus@hotmail.com>  
**To:** plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au  
**Date:** 12/18/2012 8:59 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

10 Schubert Street  
Strathpine Qld 4500

Re: Camden Gas Project Stage 3, Project Application 09\_0048 and all other similar projects

Please accept this as a submission on the Camden Gas Project Stage 3 Northern Expansion which is currently on public exhibition. I object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to drill for coal seam gas in Western Sydney.

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Yours sincerely,  
Andrea Masters

**From:** Damien Mathieson <damathie@hotmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/12/2012 10:57 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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Yours sincerely,  
Damien Mathieson

**From:** Christine Matthews <christine.matthews@qbe.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/18/2012 9:35 am  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS: 5 Dan St Campbelltown 2565 NSW

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

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Yours sincerely,  
Christine Matthews

**From:** Jennifer Matthews <thejenmister@live.com.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/12/2012 6:41 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

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Yours sincerely,  
Jennifer Matthews

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

Dear Sir/Madam

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

I object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to mine for coal seam gas (CSG) in Campbelltown and Camden. The key reasons for my objection are stated below.

I am concerned that CSG mining is a technologically-evolving industry whose impacts have not been independently and scientifically fully researched and remain largely unknown. This view is supported by professional organisations and academics in evidence to the NSW Upper House and Senate Inquiries into Coal Seam Gas Mining in 2011 and by subsequent research here and overseas. We have had to rely on the industry for much of our information when the industry has a vested interest in the outcome. AGL is no different. It claims that the Camden Gas Project has been safely operating for 10 years. Yet we understand that impacts on groundwater and air quality have not been adequately monitored, and while AGL has been operating under an Environmental Protection Licence (EPL No. 12003), it has been allowed to self-monitor its compliance, self-investigate incidents and self-report such that we do not know what true impacts it may have had. Third party consultants and external laboratories that are engaged and paid for by the industry are not *independent*. Nor is any funded or co-funded research by the CSG mining industry. These lessons should have been learnt with asbestos in Australia and with 'Big Tobacco' in the USA. The National Water Commission in its Position Statement (3<sup>rd</sup> December 2010) said that impacts may emerge over a long time period. I am deeply concerned that the costs of unforeseen problems will be borne by the community and taxpayers after AGL is long gone from the area. This is grossly irresponsible.

Doctors for the Environment Australia claims that health impacts from CSG mining have not been assessed. Preliminary research from Queensland (e.g. by Southern Cross University in Tara) and overseas is deeply concerning, especially where fracking has been used. As at December 2011, 85% of the production wells in the Camden Gas Project had been fracked (evidence from the NSW Upper House Inquiry) with inadequate monitoring of its impacts on water in particular. AGL claims that the use of horizontal wells in the proposed Stage 3 will reduce the need for fracking, but it seems that this is not entirely true since it has reserved the right to frack these wells in the future if/when the technology becomes available. The size of the proposed well clusters and any fracking of horizontal wells are both new and untested here. It will therefore be entirely experimental with unknown outcomes on health and property including the possibility of subsidence under so many urban properties.

I am also concerned about evidence from Queensland and overseas on air quality and the cumulative impact of AGL's expansion into an area that already experiences incidents of unacceptable levels of air pollution (ozone and fine particles) associated with respiratory problems (NSW Environmental Protection Authority). AGL's past performance gives no confidence that it has not already contributed to this or that it can be managed in the future,

having admitted in August this year that it had not conducted continuous air monitoring at its Rosalind Park Gas Treatment Plant for three years in breach of its EPL No.12003.

Allowing CSG mining in areas that are not zoned for heavy industry undermines zoning controls and confidence in the planning process, and creates severe land use conflicts, economic instability and inequity. It will disrupt religious communities whose vocations have so far been protected by the Scenic Hills zoning; it will place undue burden on small rural allotments whose capacity to cope is severely reduced by size (thereby threatening the survival of the entire historic Scenic Hills), and it is unsightly and unsafe in urban areas with a potential escalation in CSG mining incidents and accidents associated with the more intense urban activity (traffic, people etc.), the presence of children, and potential for vandalism. The consequent impact on land and house values for existing land and home owners may be devastating. For many people the home is their largest asset and is often leveraged to support small business. Any devaluation by bank assessors may destroy livelihoods and life savings.

I do not believe that the NSW Government's new regulations for CSG mining will ensure its safe operation here. As the only commercially producing CSG field in NSW, the Camden Gas Project has already been operating under consent conditions. Yet the NSW Government has not been able to ensure compliance, as evidenced by on-going breaches by AGL of its licence conditions, and the discovery of incidents that might not have been reported were it not for community vigilance, such as the Sugarloaf well incident in May 2011 in Menangle that allowed well contents to drift over Sydney's water channel and to nearby Glen Alpine houses

The proposal poses risks to Sydney's water in general and to the South West in particular that have not been adequately assessed. While AGL claims that the *geology of the Sydney Basin is well known*, AGL's rationale for the constant modification of prior stages of the Camden Gas Project seems to contradict this, as does its admission to the Scenic Hills Association that it does not know where the aquifers here run to but *probably Sydney Harbour*. Potential impacts on Sydney Harbour, on the nearby Sydney Water Catchment, and AGL's proposal to run its gas gathering pipeline along Sydney's Upper Canal on public land are unacceptable risks to Sydney's water, and are an abuse of public property for the benefit of private investors.

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" I acknowledge that my name will appear on my submission when publicly exhibited

Yours sincerely

Name	LISA MATTHEWS
Address	6 VALLEY RD CAMPBELLTOWN
Signature	
Date	10-12-12

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

Dear Sir/Madam

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Yours sincerely

Name	zoe Matthews
Address	6 valley road campbelltown
Signature	
Date	10-12-12

[New South Wales Government](#)

[Department of Planning](#)

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## **Robert Matthies, of Mount Annan NSW, made the following submission on the project:**

### **Camden Gas Project Stage 3 Northern Expansion**



#### **Objects to this project**

As a resident of Camden Shire, I object strongly to the proposal to extract Coal Seam Gas (CSG) in an area that has had over recent years, and is proposed to have over coming years, such a large increase in residential population. The consequences of CSG extraction have not undergone sufficient research to ensure that there will not be significant negative repercussions on the environment and the health and well-being of residents. In particular the water table and water quality, the possible health impacts on residents exposed to the above-ground well heads at such a large number of locations throughout the region, and the potential impact on the amenity of the region in general call into question the wisdom of allowing such a project to go ahead without further studies being conducted beforehand. The need to commence the extraction of CSG is not immediate as the current reserves of alternative energy sources are not dwindling, and this plan appears to be predicated solely on the opportunity to reap large profits from a previously untapped resource. As such, there ought to be much more stringent investigations conducted prior to the commencement of the project. To commence such a large project in an area that has so many residents who could possibly suffer negative health outcomes as a result of this project, should they not be unequivocally ruled out through a thorough and independent scientific study of the possible results of such an undertaking, could have ongoing economic and social repercussions for not just this area but for the entire State of NSW and the Commonwealth of Australia for many years and decades to come. I strongly urge the NSW Government to consider the implications, and to conduct further studies prior to the commencement of this project.

**From:** Daphne Maurer <daphneis@bigpond.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/17/2012 4:25 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

26 Pine Street  
Pomona. 4568.

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

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**From:** Blair Maxwell <blair.maxwell@emucreek.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/12/2012 7:44 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS: 95 Emu Creek Rd Tabulam NSW 2469

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

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**From:** Stefano Mazzina <Stefsnomazzina@gmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/12/2012 4:18 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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- The impacts of horizontal drilling have not been adequately considered in the Environmental Assessment.
- There are alternatives to coal seam gas, including renewable energy which can offer energy security without the unacceptable environmental and health risks posed by coal seam gas extraction.

Yours sincerely,  
Stefano Mazzina

**From:** john mcalpine <jmcalpine59@yahoo.com.au>  
**To:** plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au  
**Date:** 12/18/2012 10:28 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

Please accept this as a submission on the Camden Gas Project Stage 3 Northern Expansion which is currently on public exhibition. I object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to drill for coal seam gas in Western Sydney.

Please put the health and wellbeing of the people of Greater Western Sydney above the profits of AGL who plan to expand their gas field around and under people's homes and businesses.

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- Reports from Queensland and overseas show that there are serious risks to air quality and human health from unconventional gas drilling. However there have been no detailed studies done to quantify those risks especially in urban areas. The people of Camden and Campbelltown should not be treated like guinea pigs in a coal seam gas experiment.
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**From:** geraldyn mccarron <geraldynmcc@gmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/12/2012 7:27 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS: 4 Bayeau Court, Petrie, Queensland

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

Please accept this as a submission on the Camden Gas Project Stage 3 Northern Expansion which is currently on public exhibition. I object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to drill for coal seam gas in Western Sydney.

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Yours sincerely,  
geraldyn mccarron

**From:** Greg McCarthy <hotbutteredgerg@optusnet.com.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/17/2012 5:05 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

1 LYONPARK RD,  
NORTH RYDE 2113

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

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Yours sincerely,  
Greg McCarthy



**From:** Bernard McClafferty <bigislandbernie@yahoo.com.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/12/2012 6:39 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

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**From:** Mal McClenaghan <malmcc@netspace.net.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/12/2012 6:51 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

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Yours sincerely,  
Mal McClenaghan

**From:** Anna McCombe <annamcc86@gmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/13/2012 6:30 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

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Yours sincerely,  
Anna McCombe

**From:** Colin McCormac <colin\_mccormac@hotmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/17/2012 5:06 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS: PO Box 400 Strathfield NSW 2135

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

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- The impacts of horizontal drilling have not been adequately considered in the Environmental Assessment.
- There are alternatives to coal seam gas, including renewable energy which can offer energy security without the unacceptable environmental and health risks posed by coal seam gas extraction. Where are the Wind Farms and Solar Panel arrays?

Yours sincerely,  
Colin McCormac

**From:** Jenny McCracken <jam2arts@me.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/14/2012 12:49 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

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**From:** Helen Mccready <erfsista@yahoo.com.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/17/2012 6:26 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS: 3048 Castlereagh Rd, Castlereagh

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

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Yours sincerely,  
Helen Mccready

**From:** Christine McCue <christinemccue1@bigpond.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/15/2012 4:06 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

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Yours sincerely,  
Christine McCue

**From:** Heather McDonald <hettimc@skymesh.com.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/12/2012 6:44 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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**From:** Ian McDonald <smacker18@gmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/12/2012 7:57 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

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Yours sincerely,  
Ian McDonald

**From:** kathy mcdonald <isabelonacyle@gmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/17/2012 4:43 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

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Yours sincerely,  
kathy mcdonald

**From:** Luke McDonald <maccatracker@gmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/15/2012 10:47 am  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

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Yours sincerely,  
Luke McDonald

To:

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

Dear Sir/Madam

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

I object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to mine for coal seam gas (CSG) in Campbelltown and Camden. The key reasons for my objection are stated below.

I am concerned that CSG mining is a technologically-evolving industry whose impacts have not been independently and scientifically fully researched and remain largely unknown. This view is supported by professional organisations and academics in evidence to the NSW Upper House and Senate Inquiries into Coal Seam Gas Mining in 2011 and by subsequent research here and overseas. We have had to rely on the industry for much of our information when the industry has a vested interest in the outcome. AGL is no different. It claims that the Camden Gas Project has been safely operating for 10 years. Yet we understand that impacts on groundwater and air quality have not been adequately monitored, and while AGL has been operating under an Environmental Protection Licence (EPL No. 12003), it has been allowed to self-monitor its compliance, self-investigate incidents and self-report such that we do not know what true impacts it may have had. Third party consultants and external laboratories that are engaged and paid for by the industry are not *independent*. Nor is any funded or co-funded research by the CSG mining industry. These lessons should have been learnt with asbestos in Australia and with 'Big Tobacco' in the USA. The National Water Commission in its Position Statement (3<sup>rd</sup> December 2010) said that impacts may emerge over a long time period. I am deeply concerned that the costs of unforeseen problems will be borne by the community and taxpayers after AGL is long gone from the area. This is grossly irresponsible.

Doctors for the Environment Australia claims that health impacts from CSG mining have not been assessed. Preliminary research from Queensland (e.g. by Southern Cross University in Tara) and overseas is deeply concerning, especially where fracking has been used. As at December 2011, 85% of the production wells in the Camden Gas Project had been fracked (evidence from the NSW Upper House Inquiry) with inadequate monitoring of its impacts on water in particular. AGL claims that the use of horizontal wells in the proposed Stage 3 will reduce the need for fracking, but it seems that this is not entirely true since it has reserved the right to frack these wells in the future if/when the technology becomes available. The size of the proposed well clusters and any fracking of horizontal wells are both new and untested here. It will therefore be entirely experimental with unknown outcomes on health and property including the possibility of subsidence under so many urban properties.

I am also concerned about evidence from Queensland and overseas on air quality and the cumulative impact of AGL's expansion into an area that already experiences incidents of unacceptable levels of air pollution (ozone and fine particles) associated with respiratory problems (NSW Environmental Protection Authority). AGL's past performance gives no confidence that it has not already contributed to this or that it can be managed in the future,

having admitted in August this year that it had not conducted continuous air monitoring at its Rosalind Park Gas Treatment Plant for three years in breach of its EPL No.12003.

Allowing CSG mining in areas that are not zoned for heavy industry undermines zoning controls and confidence in the planning process, and creates severe land use conflicts, economic instability and inequity. It will disrupt religious communities whose vocations have so far been protected by the Scenic Hills zoning; it will place undue burden on small rural allotments whose capacity to cope is severely reduced by size (thereby threatening the survival of the entire historic Scenic Hills), and it is unsightly and unsafe in urban areas with a potential escalation in CSG mining incidents and accidents associated with the more intense urban activity (traffic, people etc.), the presence of children, and potential for vandalism. The consequent impact on land and house values for existing land and home owners may be devastating. For many people the home is their largest asset and is often leveraged to support small business. Any devaluation by bank assessors may destroy livelihoods and life savings.

I do not believe that the NSW Government's new regulations for CSG mining will ensure its safe operation here. As the only commercially producing CSG field in NSW, the Camden Gas Project has already been operating under consent conditions. Yet the NSW Government has not been able to ensure compliance, as evidenced by on-going breaches by AGL of its licence conditions, and the discovery of incidents that might not have been reported were it not for community vigilance, such as the Sugarloaf well incident in May 2011 in Menangle that allowed well contents to drift over Sydney's water channel and to nearby Glen Alpine houses.

The proposal poses risks to Sydney's water in general and to the South West in particular that have not been adequately assessed. While AGL claims that the *geology of the Sydney Basin is well known*, AGL's rationale for the constant modification of prior stages of the Camden Gas Project seems to contradict this, as does its admission to the Scenic Hills Association that it does not know where the aquifers here run to but *probably Sydney Harbour*. Potential impacts on Sydney Harbour, on the nearby Sydney Water Catchment, and AGL's proposal to run its gas gathering pipeline along Sydney's Upper Canal on public land are unacceptable risks to Sydney's water, and are an abuse of public property for the benefit of private investors.

AGL will only ever produce about 5% of NSW's gas from the Camden Gas Project according to evidence it gave under oath at the NSW Upper House Inquiry. This does not justify the risks and potential costs to the community, particularly since 150,000+ people already live and work in the immediate affected area, and this is in Sydney's south west growth corridor. It is socially, environmentally and economically unjustified, and has no social licence to operate here.

I acknowledge that my name will appear on my submission when publicly exhibited.

Yours sincerely

Name	NERIDA McDONALD
Address	43A WITHNELL CRES
	ST. HELENS PARK
Signature	N. McDonald
Date	12.12.12

**From:** Michael McDougall <michaelanthonymcdougall@gmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/17/2012 11:38 pm  
**Subject:** Your Coal Seam Gas Lies.

MY ADDRESS:

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

Please accept this as a submission on the Camden Gas Project Stage 3 Northern Expansion which is currently on public exhibition. I object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to drill for coal seam gas in Western Sydney.

Please put the health and wellbeing of the people of Greater Western Sydney above the profits of AGL who plan to expand their gas field around and under people's homes and businesses.

I urge you to reject the proposal by AGL to drill 66 new coal seam gas production wells on the grounds that:

- Reports from Queensland and overseas show that there are serious risks to air quality and human health from unconventional gas drilling. However there have been no detailed studies done to quantify those risks especially in urban areas. The people of Camden and Campbelltown should not be treated like guinea pigs in a coal seam gas experiment.
- People's homes should not be undermined by coal seam gas drilling without their knowledge or permission.
- Homeowners face declining property values within and adjoining coal seam gas fields with some estimating house values may fall up to 30%.
- The integrity of gas wells can't be guaranteed and research from gas fields in Queensland and the US has shown many fail in their first few year. This will leave the community to deal with the impact of leaking wells on air quality and local water supplies.
- New research from Southern Cross University on methane gas leaks from coal seam gas fields has not been considered in the proposal. AGL has not conducted these studies to account for methane leakage on their existing coal seam gas wells.
- Despite research from the Queensland and the US suggesting ground water contamination and gas leaks from fracking, the proposal by AGL will allow fracking.
- The impacts of horizontal drilling have not been adequately considered in the Environmental Assessment.
- There are alternatives to coal seam gas, including renewable energy which can offer energy security without the unacceptable environmental and health risks posed by coal seam gas extraction.

Yours sincerely,  
Michael McDougall

**From:** Robert McDougall <quantumdillema@hotmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/12/2012 8:28 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

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- There are alternatives to coal seam gas, including renewable energy which can offer energy security without the unacceptable environmental and health risks posed by coal seam gas extraction.

Yours sincerely,  
Robert McDougall

**From:** Lisa McFarland <lisamcfarland@optusnet.com.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/13/2012 5:34 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS: 168 Elanora Rd, Elanora Heights, NSW, 2101

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

Please accept this as a submission on the Camden Gas Project Stage 3 Northern Expansion which is currently on public exhibition. I object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to drill for coal seam gas in Western Sydney.

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- Despite research from the Queensland and the US suggesting ground water contamination and gas leaks from fracking, the proposal by AGL will allow fracking.
- The impacts of horizontal drilling have not been adequately considered in the Environmental Assessment.
- There are alternatives to coal seam gas, including renewable energy which can offer energy security without the unacceptable environmental and health risks posed by coal seam gas extraction.

Yours sincerely,  
Lisa McFarland



**From:** paul mcgannon <malos.web@gmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/17/2012 5:10 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS: faulconbridge, nsw

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

Please accept this as a submission on the Camden Gas Project Stage 3 Northern Expansion which is currently on public exhibition. I object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to drill for coal seam gas in Western Sydney.

Please put the health and wellbeing of the people of Greater Western Sydney above the profits of AGL who plan to expand their gas field around and under people's homes and businesses.

I urge you to reject the proposal by AGL to drill 66 new coal seam gas production wells on the grounds that:

- I will not vote for any government that screws-over people and the environment. I will also do my utmost to inform, educate others to do likewise with their vote.

- Reports from Queensland and overseas show that there are serious risks to air quality and human health from unconventional gas drilling. However there have been no detailed studies done to quantify those risks especially in urban areas. The people of Camden and Campbelltown should not be treated like guinea pigs in a coal seam gas experiment.

- People's homes should not be undermined by coal seam gas drilling without their knowledge or permission.

- Homeowners face declining property values within and adjoining coal seam gas fields with some estimating house values may fall up to 30%.

- The integrity of gas wells can't be guaranteed and research from gas fields in Queensland and the US has shown many fail in their first few year. This will leave the community to deal with the impact of leaking wells on air quality and local water supplies.

- New research from Southern Cross University on methane gas leaks from coal seam gas fields has not been considered in the proposal. AGL has not conducted these studies to account for methane leakage on their existing coal seam gas wells.

- Despite research from the Queensland and the US suggesting ground water contamination and gas leaks from fracking, the proposal by AGL will allow fracking.

- The impacts of horizontal drilling have not been adequately considered in the Environmental Assessment.

- There are alternatives to coal seam gas, including renewable energy which can offer energy security without the unacceptable environmental and health risks posed by coal seam gas extraction.

Yours sincerely,  
paul mcgannon

**From:** Peter McGee <clackertastic@gmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/17/2012 11:57 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

Please accept this as a submission on the Camden Gas Project Stage 3 Northern Expansion which is currently on public exhibition. I object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to drill for coal seam gas in Western Sydney.

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I urge you to reject the proposal by AGL to drill 66 new coal seam gas production wells on the grounds that:

- Reports from Queensland and overseas show that there are serious risks to air quality and human health from unconventional gas drilling. However there have been no detailed studies done to quantify those risks especially in urban areas. The people of Camden and Campbelltown should not be treated like guinea pigs in a coal seam gas experiment.
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- The impacts of horizontal drilling have not been adequately considered in the Environmental Assessment.
- There are alternatives to coal seam gas, including renewable energy which can offer energy security without the unacceptable environmental and health risks posed by coal seam gas extraction.

Yours sincerely,  
Shima Masoumi

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

Dear Sir/Madam

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

I object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to mine for coal seam gas (CSG) in Campbelltown and Camden. The key reasons for my objection are stated below.

I am concerned that CSG mining is a technologically-evolving industry whose impacts have not been independently and scientifically fully researched and remain largely unknown. This view is supported by professional organisations and academics in evidence to the NSW Upper House and Senate Inquiries into Coal Seam Gas Mining in 2011 and by subsequent research here and overseas. We have had to rely on the industry for much of our information when the industry has a vested interest in the outcome. AGL is no different. It claims that the Camden Gas Project has been safely operating for 10 years. Yet we understand that impacts on groundwater and air quality have not been adequately monitored, and while AGL has been operating under an Environmental Protection Licence (EPL No. 12003), it has been allowed to self-monitor its compliance, self-investigate incidents and self-report such that we do not know what true impacts it may have had. Third party consultants and external laboratories that are engaged and paid for by the industry are not *independent*. Nor is any funded or co-funded research by the CSG mining industry. These lessons should have been learnt with asbestos in Australia and with 'Big Tobacco' in the USA. The National Water Commission in its Position Statement (3<sup>rd</sup> December 2010) said that impacts may emerge over a long time period. I am deeply concerned that the costs of unforeseen problems will be borne by the community and taxpayers after AGL is long gone from the area. This is grossly irresponsible.

Doctors for the Environment Australia claims that health impacts from CSG mining have not been assessed. Preliminary research from Queensland (e.g. by Southern Cross University in Tara) and overseas is deeply concerning, especially where fracking has been used. As at December 2011, 85% of the production wells in the Camden Gas Project had been fracked (evidence from the NSW Upper House Inquiry) with inadequate monitoring of its impacts on water in particular. AGL claims that the use of horizontal wells in the proposed Stage 3 will reduce the need for fracking, but it seems that this is not entirely true since it has reserved the right to frack these wells in the future if/when the technology becomes available. The size of the proposed well clusters and any fracking of horizontal wells are both new and untested here. It will therefore be entirely experimental with unknown outcomes on health and property including the possibility of subsidence under so many urban properties.

I am also concerned about evidence from Queensland and overseas on air quality and the cumulative impact of AGL's expansion into an area that already experiences incidents of unacceptable levels of air pollution (ozone and fine particles) associated with respiratory problems (NSW Environmental Protection Authority). AGL's past performance gives no confidence that it has not already contributed to this or that it can be managed in the future,

having admitted in August this year that it had not conducted continuous air monitoring at its Rosalind Park Gas Treatment Plant for three years in breach of its EPL No.12003.

Allowing CSG mining in areas that are not zoned for heavy industry undermines zoning controls and confidence in the planning process, and creates severe land use conflicts, economic instability and inequity. It will disrupt religious communities whose vocations have so far been protected by the Scenic Hills zoning; it will place undue burden on small rural allotments whose capacity to cope is severely reduced by size (thereby threatening the survival of the entire historic Scenic Hills), and it is unsightly and unsafe in urban areas with a potential escalation in CSG mining incidents and accidents associated with the more intense urban activity (traffic, people etc.), the presence of children, and potential for vandalism. The consequent impact on land and house values for existing land and home owners may be devastating. For many people the home is their largest asset and is often leveraged to support small business. Any devaluation by bank assessors may destroy livelihoods and life savings.


I do not believe that the NSW Government's new regulations for CSG mining will ensure its safe operation here. As the only commercially producing CSG field in NSW, the Camden Gas Project has already been operating under consent conditions. Yet the NSW Government has not been able to ensure compliance, as evidenced by on-going breaches by AGL of its licence conditions, and the discovery of incidents that might not have been reported were it not for community vigilance, such as the Sugarloaf well incident in May 2011 in Menangle that allowed well contents to drift over Sydney's water channel and to nearby Glen Alpine houses.

The proposal poses risks to Sydney's water in general and to the South West in particular that have not been adequately assessed. While AGL claims that the *geology of the Sydney Basin is well known*, AGL's rationale for the constant modification of prior stages of the Camden Gas Project seems to contradict this, as does its admission to the Scenic Hills Association that it does not know where the aquifers here run to but *probably Sydney Harbour*. Potential impacts on Sydney Harbour, on the nearby Sydney Water Catchment, and AGL's proposal to run its gas gathering pipeline along Sydney's Upper Canal on public land are unacceptable risks to Sydney's water, and are an abuse of public property for the benefit of private investors.

AGL will only ever produce about 5% of NSW's gas from the Camden Gas Project according to evidence it gave under oath at the NSW Upper House Inquiry. This does not justify the risks and potential costs to the community, particularly since 150,000+ people already live and work in the immediate affected area, and this is in Sydney's south west growth corridor. It is socially, environmentally and economically unjustified, and has no social licence to operate here.

I acknowledge that my name will appear on my submission when publicly exhibited.

Yours sincerely

Name	MR & MRS A McGLADRIGAN
Address	2 HILLTOP AVE CURRANS HILL
	NSW 2567
Signature	
Date	10/12/12

**From:** Shaneen McGlinchey <shaneen.mcglinchey@gmail.com>  
**To:** plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au  
**Date:** 12/18/2012 5:00 pm  
**Subject:** Camden Gas Project 09\_0048

Hello

I'd like to lodge an objection to this project on the grounds of amenity, lack of adherence to planning laws and possible as yet untested consequences for the community. There has been limited consultation and this project should not proceed in this area.

shaneen McGlinchey  
62 Macarthur Road Elderslie NSW 2570

**From:** Amalyah M <mcgrathamalyah@gmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/17/2012 11:29 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

Please accept this as a submission on the Camden Gas Project Stage 3 Northern Expansion which is currently on public exhibition. I object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to drill for coal seam gas in Western Sydney.

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I urge you to reject the proposal by AGL to drill 66 new coal seam gas production wells on the grounds that:

- Reports from Queensland and overseas show that there are serious risks to air quality and human health from unconventional gas drilling. However there have been no detailed studies done to quantify those risks especially in urban areas. The people of Camden and Campbelltown should not be treated like guinea pigs in a coal seam gas experiment.
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- The impacts of horizontal drilling have not been adequately considered in the Environmental Assessment.
- There are alternatives to coal seam gas, including renewable energy which can offer energy security without the unacceptable environmental and health risks posed by coal seam gas extraction.

Yours sincerely,  
Amalyah M

**From:** Nicole McGregor <nicolemcgregor2000@yahoo.com.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/18/2012 7:16 am  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

1402 Washpool Road, Stroud, NSW 2425  
Re: Camden Gas Project Stage 3, Project Application 09\_0048

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- There are alternatives to coal seam gas, including renewable energy which can offer energy security without the unacceptable environmental and health risks posed by coal seam gas extraction.

I lived in this area and know how fragile this environment is Camden and that whole area at the time spent 12 years in drought - the storms that were delivered in and around this area could easily support wind farms and solar farming over non renewable gas projects. There just is not enough scientific proof to show that are no affects on the environment, animals and humans. Why sacrifice this for greed.

Yours sincerely,  
Nicole McGregor

**From:** Darren McHugh <dmmchugh@gmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/13/2012 5:20 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

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Yours sincerely,  
Darren McHugh



**From:** anna mcinerney <anna2232@googlemail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/13/2012 1:49 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS: 3 Darley Street, Marrickville 2204

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

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Yours sincerely,  
anna mcinerney

**From:** Elizabeth McInerney <elizabethjaye@hotmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/17/2012 3:23 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

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Yours sincerely,  
Elizabeth McInerney

**From:** Judith McInerney <mjmcinerney@optusnet.com.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/15/2012 11:56 am  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

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Yours sincerely,  
Judith McInerney

**From:** Simon McInnes <simonzenkai@yahoo.com.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/12/2012 8:11 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

Please accept this as a submission on the Camden Gas Project Stage 3 Northern Expansion which is currently on public exhibition. I object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to drill for coal seam gas in Western Sydney.

Please put the health and wellbeing of the people of Greater Western Sydney above the profits of AGL who plan to expand their gas field around and under people's homes and businesses.

I urge you to reject the proposal by AGL to drill 66 new coal seam gas production wells on the grounds that:

- Reports from Queensland and overseas show that there are serious risks to air quality and human health from unconventional gas drilling. However there have been no detailed studies done to quantify those risks especially in urban areas. The people of Camden and Campbelltown should not be treated like guinea pigs in a coal seam gas experiment.
- People's homes should not be undermined by coal seam gas drilling without their knowledge or permission.
- Homeowners face declining property values within and adjoining coal seam gas fields with some estimating house values may fall up to 30%.
- The integrity of gas wells can't be guaranteed and research from gas fields in Queensland and the US has shown many fail in their first few year. This will leave the community to deal with the impact of leaking wells on air quality and local water supplies.
- New research from Southern Cross University on methane gas leaks from coal seam gas fields has not been considered in the proposal. AGL has not conducted these studies to account for methane leakage on their existing coal seam gas wells.
- Despite research from the Queensland and the US suggesting ground water contamination and gas leaks from fracking, the proposal by AGL will allow fracking.
- The impacts of horizontal drilling have not been adequately considered in the Environmental Assessment.
- There are alternatives to coal seam gas, including renewable energy which can offer energy security without the unacceptable environmental and health risks posed by coal seam gas extraction.

Yours sincerely,  
Simon McInnes

**From:** isabel mcintosh <isa\_mci@rocketmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/17/2012 2:23 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

ADDRESS: NSW 2015

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

Please accept this as a submission on the Camden Gas Project Stage 3 Northern Expansion which is currently on public exhibition. I object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to drill for coal seam gas in Greater Western Sydney with its population of more than 2m people.

Please put the health and wellbeing of the people of Greater Western Sydney above the profits of AGL who plan to expand their gas field around and under people's homes and businesses.

I urge you to reject the proposal by AGL to drill 66 new coal seam gas production wells on the grounds that:

- Reports from Queensland and overseas show that there are serious risks to air quality and human health from unconventional gas drilling. However there have been no detailed studies done to quantify those risks especially in urban areas. The people of Camden and Campbelltown should not be treated like guinea pigs in a coal seam gas experiment.
- People's homes should not be undermined by coal seam gas drilling without their knowledge or permission.
- Homeowners face declining property values within and adjoining coal seam gas fields with some estimating house values may fall up to 30% and that drilling under people's homes without them knowing is outrageous.
- The integrity of gas wells can't be guaranteed and research from gas fields in Queensland and the US has shown many fail in their first few year. This will leave the community to deal with the impact of leaking wells on air quality and local water supplies.
- New research from Southern Cross University on methane gas leaks from coal seam gas fields has not been considered in the proposal. AGL has not conducted these studies to account for methane leakage on their existing coal seam gas wells.
- Despite research from the Queensland and the US suggesting ground water contamination and gas leaks from fracking, the proposal by AGL will allow fracking.
- The impacts of horizontal drilling have not been adequately considered in the Environmental Assessment.
- There are alternatives to coal seam gas, including renewable energy which can offer energy security without the unacceptable environmental and health risks posed by coal seam gas extraction.

Also - what's going to happen to the old wells, who is responsible for maintaining these over the next 100 years?

Yours sincerely,  
isabel mcintosh

**From:** phillip mcintyre <phillip.mcintyre@texasradio.com.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/17/2012 5:35 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

1/80 Wolfe St Newcastle NSW 2300

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

Please accept this as a submission on the Camden Gas Project Stage 3 Northern Expansion which is currently on public exhibition. I object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to drill for coal seam gas in Western Sydney.

Please put the health and wellbeing of the people of Greater Western Sydney above the profits of AGL who plan to expand their gas field around and under people's homes and businesses.

I urge you to reject the proposal by AGL to drill 66 new coal seam gas production wells on the grounds that:

- Reports from Queensland and overseas show that there are serious risks to air quality and human health from unconventional gas drilling. However there have been no detailed studies done to quantify those risks especially in urban areas. The people of Camden and Campbelltown should not be treated like guinea pigs in a coal seam gas experiment.
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- Despite research from the Queensland and the US suggesting ground water contamination and gas leaks from fracking, the proposal by AGL will allow fracking.
- The impacts of horizontal drilling have not been adequately considered in the Environmental Assessment.
- There are alternatives to coal seam gas, including renewable energy which can offer energy security without the unacceptable environmental and health risks posed by coal seam gas extraction.

Yours sincerely,

Phillip McIntyre

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

Dear Sir/Madam

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

I object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to mine for coal seam gas (CSG) in Campbelltown and Camden. The key reasons for my objection are stated below.

I am concerned that CSG mining is a technologically-evolving industry whose impacts have not been independently and scientifically fully researched and remain largely unknown. This view is supported by professional organisations and academics in evidence to the NSW Upper House and Senate Inquiries into Coal Seam Gas Mining in 2011 and by subsequent research here and overseas. We have had to rely on the industry for much of our information when the industry has a vested interest in the outcome. AGL is no different. It claims that the Camden Gas Project has been safely operating for 10 years. Yet we understand that impacts on groundwater and air quality have not been adequately monitored, and while AGL has been operating under an Environmental Protection Licence (EPL No. 12003), it has been allowed to self-monitor its compliance, self-investigate incidents and self-report such that we do not know what true impacts it may have had. Third party consultants and external laboratories that are engaged and paid for by the industry are not *independent*. Nor is any funded or co-funded research by the CSG mining industry. These lessons should have been learnt with asbestos in Australia and with 'Big Tobacco' in the USA. The National Water Commission in its Position Statement (3<sup>rd</sup> December 2010) said that impacts may emerge over a long time period. I am deeply concerned that the costs of unforeseen problems will be borne by the community and taxpayers after AGL is long gone from the area. This is grossly irresponsible.

Doctors for the Environment Australia claims that health impacts from CSG mining have not been assessed. Preliminary research from Queensland (e.g. by Southern Cross University in Tara) and overseas is deeply concerning, especially where fracking has been used. As at December 2011, 85% of the production wells in the Camden Gas Project had been fracked (evidence from the NSW Upper House Inquiry) with inadequate monitoring of its impacts on water in particular. AGL claims that the use of horizontal wells in the proposed Stage 3 will reduce the need for fracking, but it seems that this is not entirely true since it has reserved the right to frack these wells in the future if/when the technology becomes available. The size of the proposed well clusters and any fracking of horizontal wells are both new and untested here. It will therefore be entirely experimental with unknown outcomes on health and property including the possibility of subsidence under so many urban properties.

I am also concerned about evidence from Queensland and overseas on air quality and the cumulative impact of AGL's expansion into an area that already experiences incidents of unacceptable levels of air pollution (ozone and fine particles) associated with respiratory problems (NSW Environmental Protection Authority). AGL's past performance gives no confidence that it has not already contributed to this or that it can be managed in the future,

having admitted in August this year that it had not conducted continuous air monitoring at its Rosalind Park Gas Treatment Plant for three years in breach of its EPL No.12003.

Allowing CSG mining in areas that are not zoned for heavy industry undermines zoning controls and confidence in the planning process, and creates severe land use conflicts, economic instability and inequity. It will disrupt religious communities whose vocations have so far been protected by the Scenic Hills zoning; it will place undue burden on small rural allotments whose capacity to cope is severely reduced by size (thereby threatening the survival of the entire historic Scenic Hills), and it is unsightly and unsafe in urban areas with a potential escalation in CSG mining incidents and accidents associated with the more intense urban activity (traffic, people etc.), the presence of children, and potential for vandalism. The consequent impact on land and house values for existing land and home owners may be devastating. For many people the home is their largest asset and is often leveraged to support small business. Any devaluation by bank assessors may destroy livelihoods and life savings.

I do not believe that the NSW Government's new regulations for CSG mining will ensure its safe operation here. As the only commercially producing CSG field in NSW, the Camden Gas Project has already been operating under consent conditions. Yet the NSW Government has not been able to ensure compliance, as evidenced by on-going breaches by AGL of its licence conditions, and the discovery of incidents that might not have been reported were it not for community vigilance, such as the Sugarloaf well incident in May 2011 in Menangle that allowed well contents to drift over Sydney's water channel and to nearby Glen Alpine houses.

The proposal poses risks to Sydney's water in general and to the South West in particular that have not been adequately assessed. While AGL claims that the *geology of the Sydney Basin is well known*, AGL's rationale for the constant modification of prior stages of the Camden Gas Project seems to contradict this, as does its admission to the Scenic Hills Association that it does not know where the aquifers here run to but *probably Sydney Harbour*. Potential impacts on Sydney Harbour, on the nearby Sydney Water Catchment, and AGL's proposal to run its gas gathering pipeline along Sydney's Upper Canal on public land are unacceptable risks to Sydney's water, and are an abuse of public property for the benefit of private investors.

AGL will only ever produce about 5% of NSW's gas from the Camden Gas Project according to evidence it gave under oath at the NSW Upper House Inquiry. This does not justify the risks and potential costs to the community, particularly since 150,000+ people already live and work in the immediate affected area, and this is in Sydney's south west growth corridor. It is socially, environmentally and economically unjustified, and has no social licence to operate here.

I acknowledge that my name will appear on my submission when publicly exhibited.

Yours sincerely

Name	Belinda & Chris McKay
Address	21a theseus ct
	Rosemeadow Gardens NSW 2560
Signature	Belinda McKay
Date	10.12.12.



**From:** Imogen Mckay <contented\_hippo@hotmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/17/2012 6:30 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

Please accept this as a submission on the Camden Gas Project Stage 3 Northern Expansion which is currently on public exhibition. I object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to drill for coal seam gas in Western Sydney.

Please put the health and wellbeing of the people of Greater Western Sydney above the profits of AGL who plan to expand their gas field around and under people's homes and businesses.

I urge you to reject the proposal by AGL to drill 66 new coal seam gas production wells on the grounds that:

- Reports from Queensland and overseas show that there are serious risks to air quality and human health from unconventional gas drilling. However there have been no detailed studies done to quantify those risks especially in urban areas. The people of Camden and Campbelltown should not be treated like guinea pigs in a coal seam gas experiment.
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- Despite research from the Queensland and the US suggesting ground water contamination and gas leaks from fracking, the proposal by AGL will allow fracking.
- The impacts of horizontal drilling have not been adequately considered in the Environmental Assessment.
- There are alternatives to coal seam gas, including renewable energy which can offer energy security without the unacceptable environmental and health risks posed by coal seam gas extraction.

Yours sincerely,  
Imogen Mckay

**From:** Iain McKechnie <shackhilton@yahoo.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/16/2012 7:10 am  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

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- The impacts of horizontal drilling have not been adequately considered in the Environmental Assessment.
- There are alternatives to coal seam gas, including renewable energy which can offer energy security without the unacceptable environmental and health risks posed by coal seam gas extraction.

Yours sincerely,  
Iain McKechnie

**From:** Merryn McKenna <merrynmac@gmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/12/2012 7:43 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

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- The impacts of horizontal drilling have not been adequately considered in the Environmental Assessment.
- There are alternatives to coal seam gas, including renewable energy which can offer energy security without the unacceptable environmental and health risks posed by coal seam gas extraction.

Yours sincerely,  
Merryn McKenna

**From:** Anne McKenzie <annemck@bigpond.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/12/2012 10:31 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS: 98 Stuarts Rd Katoomba NSW

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

Please accept this as a submission on the Camden Gas Project Stage 3 Northern Expansion which is currently on public exhibition. I object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to drill for coal seam gas in Western Sydney.

Please put the health and wellbeing of the people of Greater Western Sydney above the profits of AGL who plan to expand their gas field around and under people's homes and businesses.

I urge you to reject the proposal by AGL to drill 66 new coal seam gas production wells on the grounds that:

Please do the research! Protect our water - protect the future for our children - I will support you, you will have my respect for thinking of the future rather than some short term monetary gain. I will be happy with living on less.

Thank you in advance  
Anne McKenzie

Yours sincerely,  
Anne McKenzie

**From:** Bobbi Mckibbin <B.mckibbin@anythingsolar.com.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/12/2012 3:42 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

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- There are alternatives to coal seam gas, including renewable energy which can offer energy security without the unacceptable environmental and health risks posed by coal seam gas extraction.

Yours sincerely,  
Bobbi Mckibbin

**From:** neil mckilligan <neil.mckilligan@bigpond.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/13/2012 2:07 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

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Yours sincerely,  
neil mckilligan

**From:** Lily McKnight <lily.s.mcknight@gmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/18/2012 8:34 am  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

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Yours sincerely,  
Lily McKnight

**From:** Lea McLachlan

<lea.mclachlan@hotmail.com>

**To:** "plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au" <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>

**Date:** 12/17/2012 11:59 am

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

**Attachments:** Submission\_BLMclachlan.docx



17/12/2012

Mr Brett McLachlan & Mrs Lea McLachlan  
3 Shannon Place  
Kearns, NSW 2558

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

***Sent by email to [plan\\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au)***

Dear Sir/Madam

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

We object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to mine for coal seam gas in Campbelltown and Camden. The reasons for our objection are stated below.

We are unconvinced that coal seam gas mining is safe. There are far too many potential unknown consequences that operations such as this could have on the environment and our water supply. We are concerned about the effect coal seam gas mining could have on our health, our environment, endangered species of flora and fauna, and our house and land values.

In our opinions, coal seam gas mining in suburbia is absurd and one hundred percent incompatible. We believe that our community as a whole would suffer detrimentally as a consequence of coal seam gas mining being upgraded to such a large scale. We, as residents of Campbelltown, object to being used as guinea pigs, put at unknown risks for corporations to benefit financially.

We are concerned about the many negative aspects coal seam gas operations could have in our area. Will there be increase in noise pollution from operations drilling 24 hours a day, 7 days a week? Will there be an increase in traffic due to the extra rig trucks and wastewater and chemical transporting vehicles on our local suburban roads? What would happen if there was a spill on these suburban roads?

We are also concerned about what would happen if there was ever an emergency situation that required a mass evacuation? If AGL wells are so close to houses and schools, and they are allowed to drill under the majority of our town, would many residences be safe enough to live in let alone retreat to if there was an emergency evacuation? Will AGL hold evacuation information sessions for residents that live close to the wells? All of these concerning questions prove that mining in suburban areas is incompatible - end of story.

You only have to look at this issue internationally to realise that Australia now has the ability

to prevent making the same mistakes as the United States. Knowing that in America, the environmental and health effects are being felt by many citizens. Citizens that can light their tap water on fire. These citizens have no power or funds to hold the companies responsible for contaminating their land and environment.

In America, the citizens are the ones who have the responsibility of proving that the coal seam gas mining caused their problems. How are they expected to do that? It is a lost battle. The large mining corporations have unlimited funds and armies of solicitors that scare and defeat even the most robust contender. We cannot help but see the similarities between the modus operandi of the American Mining giants, the plight of the everyday citizens and the current battle being waged in the Scenic Hills, Campbelltown NSW.

The multi million dollar operations proposed in the scenic hills near our home (The Camden Gas Project) raises alarm bells in our minds. It has both unknown environmental impacts along with unknown health risks to the local community. This process has been banned in France due to this very reason. This process has not been proven to be safe. To repeat, it has not been proven to be safe, it is a new technology. The CSIRO are still researching the effects of this process on the environment.

In closing, we would like to reiterate our opposition to the Camden gas project and the potential destruction of our home town as we know it. Campbelltown is suburbia and suburbia is compatible with gas mining. There are far too many unknown risks. Operations by AGL are not going to stabilize if they are approved and implemented, they will be increased and the need for a gas plant in Varroville will be next on the agenda.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Brett McLachlan & Mrs Lea McLachlan

17/12/2012

Mr Brett McLachlan & Mrs Lea McLachlan  
3 Shannon Place  
Kearns, NSW 2558

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

***Sent by email to [plan\\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au)***

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

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In America, the citizens are the ones who have the responsibility of proving that the coal seam gas mining caused their problems. How are they expected to do that? It is a lost battle. The large mining corporations have unlimited funds and armies of solicitors that scare and defeat even the most robust contender. We cannot help but see the similarities between the modus operandi of the American Mining giants, the plight of the everyday citizens and the current battle being waged in the Scenic Hills, Campbelltown NSW.

The multi million dollar operations proposed in the scenic hills near our home (The Camden Gas Project) raises alarm bells in our minds. It has both unknown environmental impacts along with unknown health risks to the local community. This process has been banned in France due to this very reason. This process has not been proven to be safe. To repeat, it has not been proven to be safe, it is a new technology. The CSIRO are still researching the effects of this process on the environment.

In closing, we would like to reiterate our opposition to the Camden gas project and the potential destruction of our home town as we know it. Campbelltown is suburbia and suburbia is compatible with gas mining. There are far too many unknown risks. Operations by AGL are not going to stabilize if they are approved and implemented, they will be increased and the need for a gas plant in Varroville will be next on the agenda.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Brett McLachlan & Mrs Lea McLachlan

**From:** Darryl McLachlan <dassign@bigpond.net.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/14/2012 11:05 am  
**Subject:** Objection to Camden Gas Project Stage 3, Project Application 09\_0048  
**Attachments:** CM\_Submission\_letter\_CGP3.doc

Please find letter attached.

Regards

Cheryl McLachlan

14/12/2012

Cheryl McLachlan  
PO Box 5120  
Minto DC NSW 2566

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

Dear Sir/Madam

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

I object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to mine for coal seam gas in Campbelltown and Camden. Some of the reasons for my objection are stated below.

It is clear that health impacts from CSG mining have not been fully assessed. Preliminary research from Queensland (e.g. by Southern Cross University in Tara) and overseas is deeply concerning, especially where fracking has been used. As at December 2011, 85% of the production wells in the Camden Gas Project had been fracked (evidence from the NSW Upper House Inquiry) with inadequate monitoring of its impacts on water in particular. AGL claims that the use of horizontal wells in the proposed Stage 3 will reduce the need for fracking, but it seems that this is not entirely true since it has reserved the right to frack these wells in the future if/when the technology becomes available. The size of the proposed well clusters and any fracking of horizontal wells are both new and untested here. It will therefore be entirely experimental with unknown outcomes on health and property including the possibility of subsidence under so many urban properties.

Yours sincerely

Cheryl McLachlan

**From:** Darryl McLachlan <dassign@bigpond.net.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/14/2012 11:07 am  
**Subject:** Objection to Camden Gas Project Stage 3, Project Application 09\_0048  
**Attachments:** CLM\_Submission\_letter\_CGP3.doc

Please find letter attached.

Regards

Christopher McLachlan

14/12/2012

Christopher McLachlan  
PO Box 5120  
Minto DC NSW 2566

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

Dear Sir/Madam

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

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Yours sincerely

Christopher McLachlan



12/12/2012

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Minto DC NSW 2566

Mining and Industry Projects  
Department of Planning  
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I object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to mine for coal seam gas in Campbelltown and Camden. The some of the reasons for my objection are stated below.

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Yours sincerely

Darryl McLachlan

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

Dear Sir/Madam

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

I object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to mine for coal seam gas (CSG) in Campbelltown and Camden. The key reasons for my objection are stated below.

I am concerned that CSG mining is a technologically-evolving industry whose impacts have not been independently and scientifically fully researched and remain largely unknown. This view is supported by professional organisations and academics in evidence to the NSW Upper House and Senate Inquiries into Coal Seam Gas Mining in 2011 and by subsequent research here and overseas. We have had to rely on the industry for much of our information when the industry has a vested interest in the outcome. AGL is no different. It claims that the Camden Gas Project has been safely operating for 10 years. Yet we understand that impacts on groundwater and air quality have not been adequately monitored, and while AGL has been operating under an Environmental Protection Licence (EPL No. 12003), it has been allowed to self-monitor its compliance, self-investigate incidents and self-report such that we do not know what true impacts it may have had. Third party consultants and external laboratories that are engaged and paid for by the industry are not *independent*. Nor is any funded or co-funded research by the CSG mining industry. These lessons should have been learnt with asbestos in Australia and with 'Big Tobacco' in the USA. The National Water Commission in its Position Statement (3<sup>rd</sup> December 2010) said that impacts may emerge over a long time period. I am deeply concerned that the costs of unforeseen problems will be borne by the community and taxpayers after AGL is long gone from the area. This is grossly irresponsible.

Doctors for the Environment Australia claims that health impacts from CSG mining have not been assessed. Preliminary research from Queensland (e.g. by Southern Cross University in Tara) and overseas is deeply concerning, especially where fracking has been used. As at December 2011, 85% of the production wells in the Camden Gas Project had been fracked (evidence from the NSW Upper House Inquiry) with inadequate monitoring of its impacts on water in particular. AGL claims that the use of horizontal wells in the proposed Stage 3 will reduce the need for fracking, but it seems that this is not entirely true since it has reserved the right to frack these wells in the future if/when the technology becomes available. The size of the proposed well clusters and any fracking of horizontal wells are both new and untested here. It will therefore be entirely experimental with unknown outcomes on health and property including the possibility of subsidence under so many urban properties.

I am also concerned about evidence from Queensland and overseas on air quality and the cumulative impact of AGL's expansion into an area that already experiences incidents of unacceptable levels of air pollution (ozone and fine particles) associated with respiratory problems (NSW Environmental Protection Authority). AGL's past performance gives no confidence that it has not already contributed to this or that it can be managed in the future,

having admitted in August this year that it had not conducted continuous air monitoring at its Rosalind Park Gas Treatment Plant for three years in breach of its EPL No.12003.

Allowing CSG mining in areas that are not zoned for heavy industry undermines zoning controls and confidence in the planning process, and creates severe land use conflicts, economic instability and inequity. It will disrupt religious communities whose vocations have so far been protected by the Scenic Hills zoning; it will place undue burden on small rural allotments whose capacity to cope is severely reduced by size (thereby threatening the survival of the entire historic Scenic Hills), and it is unsightly and unsafe in urban areas with a potential escalation in CSG mining incidents and accidents associated with the more intense urban activity (traffic, people etc.), the presence of children, and potential for vandalism. The consequent impact on land and house values for existing land and home owners may be devastating. For many people the home is their largest asset and is often leveraged to support small business. Any devaluation by bank assessors may destroy livelihoods and life savings.

I do not believe that the NSW Government's new regulations for CSG mining will ensure its safe operation here. As the only commercially producing CSG field in NSW, the Camden Gas Project has already been operating under consent conditions. Yet the NSW Government has not been able to ensure compliance, as evidenced by on-going breaches by AGL of its licence conditions, and the discovery of incidents that might not have been reported were it not for community vigilance, such as the Sugarloaf well incident in May 2011 in Menangle that allowed well contents to drift over Sydney's water channel and to nearby Glen Alpine houses.

The proposal poses risks to Sydney's water in general and to the South West in particular that have not been adequately assessed. While AGL claims that the *geology of the Sydney Basin is well known*, AGL's rationale for the constant modification of prior stages of the Camden Gas Project seems to contradict this, as does its admission to the Scenic Hills Association that it does not know where the aquifers here run to but *probably Sydney Harbour*. Potential impacts on Sydney Harbour, on the nearby Sydney Water Catchment, and AGL's proposal to run its gas gathering pipeline along Sydney's Upper Canal on public land are unacceptable risks to Sydney's water, and are an abuse of public property for the benefit of private investors.

AGL will continue to produce about 5% of NSW's gas from the Camden Gas Project according to evidence it gave under oath at the NSW Upper House Inquiry. The risks and potential costs to the community do not justify this, particularly since 150,000+ people already live and work in the immediate affected area, and this is in Sydney's south west growth corridor. It is socially, environmentally and economically unjustified, and has no social licence to operate here.

I acknowledge that my name will appear on my submission when publicly exhibited.

Yours sincerely

Name	Robin McLaren
Address	45 Ballantrae Dr St Andrews
Signature	<i>R McLaren</i>
Date	10/12/12

2566

**From:** Doug McLean <dougwater@gmail.com>  
**To:** plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au  
**Date:** 12/24/2012 11:29 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

Please accept this as a submission on the Camden Gas Project Stage 3 Northern Expansion which is currently on public exhibition. I object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to drill for coal seam gas in Western Sydney.

Please put the health and wellbeing of the people of Greater Western Sydney above the profits of AGL who plan to expand their gas field around and under people's homes and businesses.

I urge you to reject the proposal by AGL to drill 66 new coal seam gas production wells on the grounds that:

- Reports from Queensland and overseas show that there are serious risks to air quality and human health from unconventional gas drilling. However there have been no detailed studies done to quantify those risks especially in urban areas. The people of Camden and Campbelltown should not be treated like guinea pigs in a coal seam gas experiment.
- People's homes should not be undermined by coal seam gas drilling without their knowledge or permission.
- Homeowners face declining property values within and adjoining coal seam gas fields with some estimating house values may fall up to 30%.
- The integrity of gas wells can't be guaranteed and research from gas fields in Queensland and the US has shown many fail in their first few year. This will leave the community to deal with the impact of leaking wells on air quality and local water supplies.
- New research from Southern Cross University on methane gas leaks from coal seam gas fields has not been considered in the proposal. AGL has not conducted these studies to account for methane leakage on their existing coal seam gas wells.
- Despite research from the Queensland and the US suggesting ground water contamination and gas leaks from fracking, the proposal by AGL will allow fracking.
- The impacts of horizontal drilling have not been adequately considered in the Environmental Assessment.
- There are alternatives to coal seam gas, including renewable energy which can offer energy security without the unacceptable environmental and health risks posed by coal seam gas extraction.

Yours sincerely,  
Doug McLean

**From:** Elizabeth McLeay <lizmc@adam.com.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/14/2012 12:18 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

Unit 6/ 3 Alfred St  
Norwood  
SA 5067

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

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Yours sincerely,  
Elizabeth McLeay

**From:** Annabel McLisky <annabelmclisky@hotmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/14/2012 4:38 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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[New South Wales Government](#)

[Department of Planning](#)

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## **Thomas McMahon, of Ruby NSW, made the following submission on the project:**

### **Camden Gas Project Stage 3 Northern Expansion**



#### **Objects to this project**

I wish to object to the planned gas drilling close to residential areas in Campbelltown. I believe it will have a detrimental effect on the environment and to the community.

**From:** Chris McMillan <cj.mcmillan@yahoo.com.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/17/2012 9:39 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

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Yours sincerely,  
Chris McMillan



**From:** Emily McMillan <mcmillan\_emily@hotmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/18/2012 4:25 am  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

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Yours sincerely,  
Emily McMillan

**From:** Paul McNamara <pw\_mc@yahoo.com.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/17/2012 7:16 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

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Yours sincerely,  
Paul McNamara

**From:** Christine McPherson <christinemcpherson85@gmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/13/2012 9:45 am  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS: Baulkham Hills

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

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Yours sincerely,  
Christine McPherson

**From:** suzanne McPherson <suz\_macca@hotmail.com>  
**To:** plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au  
**Date:** 12/18/2012 11:21 am  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS: 22 Minchinbury Terrace, Eschol Park

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

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Yours sincerely,  
suzanne McPherson

**From:** Alex Mednis <mednez@gmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/17/2012 6:20 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS: 10 Billa Road Bangor NSW 2234

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

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Yours sincerely,  
Alex Mednis

**From:** Bronte Mednis <pineapplepigs@hotmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/17/2012 6:22 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS: 10 Billa Road, Bangor 2234

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

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- There are alternatives to coal seam gas, including renewable energy which can offer energy security without the unacceptable environmental and health risks posed by coal seam gas extraction.

Yours sincerely,  
Bronte Mednis

**From:** Kathy Mednis <kmednis@claytonutz.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/14/2012 9:11 am  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

Please accept this as a submission on the Camden Gas Project Stage 3 Northern Expansion which is currently on public exhibition. I object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to drill for coal seam gas in Western Sydney.

Please put the health and wellbeing of the people of Greater Western Sydney above the profits of AGL who plan to expand their gas field around and under people's homes and businesses.

I urge you to reject the proposal by AGL to drill 66 new coal seam gas production wells on the grounds that:

- Reports from Queensland and overseas show that there are serious risks to air quality and human health from unconventional gas drilling. However there have been no detailed studies done to quantify those risks especially in urban areas. The people of Camden and Campbelltown should not be treated like guinea pigs in a coal seam gas experiment.
- People's homes should not be undermined by coal seam gas drilling without their knowledge or permission.
- Homeowners face declining property values within and adjoining coal seam gas fields with some estimating house values may fall up to 30%.
- The integrity of gas wells can't be guaranteed and research from gas fields in Queensland and the US has shown many fail in their first few year. This will leave the community to deal with the impact of leaking wells on air quality and local water supplies.
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Yours sincerely,  
Kathy Mednis

**From:** Martin Mednis <martin.mednis@clorox.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/17/2012 12:41 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS: 10 BILLA ROAD BANGOR 2234

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

Please accept this as a submission on the Camden Gas Project Stage 3 Northern Expansion which is currently on public exhibition. I object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to drill for coal seam gas in Western Sydney.

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- The impacts of horizontal drilling have not been adequately considered in the Environmental Assessment.
- There are alternatives to coal seam gas, including renewable energy which can offer energy security without the unacceptable environmental and health risks posed by coal seam gas extraction.

Yours sincerely,  
Martin Mednis



**From:** anna meister <meisteranna@me.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/13/2012 8:14 am  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS: 82 chapman st callala bay

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

Please accept this as a submission on the Camden Gas Project Stage 3 Northern Expansion which is currently on public exhibition. I object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to drill for coal seam gas in Western Sydney.

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- There are alternatives to coal seam gas, including renewable energy which can offer energy security without the unacceptable environmental and health risks posed by coal seam gas extraction.

Yours sincerely,  
anna meister

**From:** Lorraine Melanson <lorrainemelanson@yahoo.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/12/2012 10:13 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS: 129 Forest Road, Arncliffe, NSW 2205

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

Please accept this as a submission on the Camden Gas Project Stage 3 Northern Expansion which is currently on public exhibition. I object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to drill for coal seam gas in Western Sydney.

Please put the health and wellbeing of the people of Greater Western Sydney above the profits of AGL who plan to expand their gas field around and under people's homes and businesses.

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Yours sincerely,  
Lorraine Melanson

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

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**From:** Margaret Mellor <margmellor@yahoo.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/11/2012 9:37 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Camden Gas Project Stage 3, Project Application 09\_0048

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Dear Sir/Madam,

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

I understand from Malcolm Maiden's article of 1-2 December 2012 in the SMH Weekend Business entitled 'Fracking loosens OPEC grip on World Energy' that there is a large amount of gas that can be accessed under the earth in the USA, Australia and elsewhere.

I object to AGL's project application above to mine for coal seam gas in Campbelltown and Camden because the choice should be made to select sites away from residential housing. Australia is a big country and large parts have little housing. AGL should go there.

It would be better to prove that the AGL process is safe away from residential housing. Let's take a more cautious route.

Yours sincerely

Margaret Mellor

60 Harrington St Elderslie 2570

**From:** Giselle Meneguzzi <grannyknitting@hotmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/14/2012 8:24 am  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS: 4/16 Ewing St, Lismore 2480

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

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**Alan Merce, of Eschol Park NSW, made the following submission on the project:**

## **Camden Gas Project Stage 3 Northern Expansion**



### **Objects to this project**

Eschol Park is home to me and my family. We do not want a gas mine in our back yards. There are no long term studies on how our health would be compromised by this type of gas mining. This is a residential area not a mine site. I want to wake up to cows roaming the hills of eschol park not people wearing mining hats. I cannot object to the gas mining plan enough. Keep gas mining out of my home.

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

Dear Sir/Madam

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

I object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to mine for coal seam gas (CSG) in Campbelltown and Camden. The key reasons for my objection are stated below.

I am concerned that CSG mining is a technologically-evolving industry whose impacts have not been independently and scientifically fully researched and remain largely unknown. This view is supported by professional organisations and academics in evidence to the NSW Upper House and Senate Inquiries into Coal Seam Gas Mining in 2011 and by subsequent research here and overseas. We have had to rely on the industry for much of our information when the industry has a vested interest in the outcome. AGL is no different. It claims that the Camden Gas Project has been safely operating for 10 years. Yet we understand that impacts on groundwater and air quality have not been adequately monitored, and while AGL has been operating under an Environmental Protection Licence (EPL No. 12003), it has been allowed to self-monitor its compliance, self-investigate incidents and self-report such that we do not know what true impacts it may have had. Third party consultants and external laboratories that are engaged and paid for by the industry are not *independent*. Nor is any funded or co-funded research by the CSG mining industry. These lessons should have been learnt with asbestos in Australia and with 'Big Tobacco' in the USA. The National Water Commission in its Position Statement (3<sup>rd</sup> December 2010) said that impacts may emerge over a long time period. I am deeply concerned that the costs of unforeseen problems will be borne by the community and taxpayers after AGL is long gone from the area. This is grossly irresponsible.

Doctors for the Environment Australia claims that health impacts from CSG mining have not been assessed. Preliminary research from Queensland (e.g. by Southern Cross University in Tara) and overseas is deeply concerning, especially where fracking has been used. As at December 2011, 85% of the production wells in the Camden Gas Project had been fracked (evidence from the NSW Upper House Inquiry) with inadequate monitoring of its impacts on water in particular. AGL claims that the use of horizontal wells in the proposed Stage 3 will reduce the need for fracking, but it seems that this is not entirely true since it has reserved the right to frack these wells in the future if/when the technology becomes available. The size of the proposed well clusters and any fracking of horizontal wells are both new and untested here. It will therefore be entirely experimental with unknown outcomes on health and property including the possibility of subsidence under so many urban properties.

I am also concerned about evidence from Queensland and overseas on air quality and the cumulative impact of AGL's expansion into an area that already experiences incidents of unacceptable levels of air pollution (ozone and fine particles) associated with respiratory problems (NSW Environmental Protection Authority). AGL's past performance gives no confidence that it has not already contributed to this or that it can be managed in the future,

having admitted in August this year that it had not conducted continuous air monitoring at its Rosalind Park Gas Treatment Plant for three years in breach of its EPL No.12003.

Allowing CSG mining in areas that are not zoned for heavy industry undermines zoning controls and confidence in the planning process, and creates severe land use conflicts, economic instability and inequity. It will disrupt religious communities whose vocations have so far been protected by the Scenic Hills zoning; it will place undue burden on small rural allotments whose capacity to cope is severely reduced by size (thereby threatening the survival of the entire historic Scenic Hills), and it is unsightly and unsafe in urban areas with a potential escalation in CSG mining incidents and accidents associated with the more intense urban activity (traffic, people etc.), the presence of children, and potential for vandalism. The consequent impact on land and house values for existing land and home owners may be devastating. For many people the home is their largest asset and is often leveraged to support small business. Any devaluation by bank assessors may destroy livelihoods and life savings.

I do not believe that the NSW Government's new regulations for CSG mining will ensure its safe operation here. As the only commercially producing CSG field in NSW, the Camden Gas Project has already been operating under consent conditions. Yet the NSW Government has not been able to ensure compliance, as evidenced by on-going breaches by AGL of its licence conditions, and the discovery of incidents that might not have been reported were it not for community vigilance, such as the Sugarloaf well incident in May 2011 in Menangle that allowed well contents to drift over Sydney's water channel and to nearby Glen Alpine houses.

The proposal poses risks to Sydney's water in general and to the South West in particular that have not been adequately assessed. While AGL claims that the *geology of the Sydney Basin is well known*, AGL's rationale for the constant modification of prior stages of the Camden Gas Project seems to contradict this, as does its admission to the Scenic Hills Association that it does not know where the aquifers here run to but *probably Sydney Harbour*. Potential impacts on Sydney Harbour, on the nearby Sydney Water Catchment, and AGL's proposal to run its gas gathering pipeline along Sydney's Upper Canal on public land are unacceptable risks to Sydney's water, and are an abuse of public property for the benefit of private investors.

AGL will only ever produce about 5% of NSW's gas from the Camden Gas Project according to evidence it gave under oath at the NSW Upper House Inquiry. This does not justify the risks and potential costs to the community, particularly since 150,000+ people already live and work in the immediate affected area, and this is in Sydney's south west growth corridor. It is socially, environmentally and economically unjustified, and has no social licence to operate here.

I acknowledge that my name will appear on my submission when publicly exhibited.

Yours sincerely

Name	WENDY MERCHANT
Address	28 MERINO DRIVE ELDERSLIE
	NSW 2570.
Signature	<i>W Merchant</i>
Date	17/12/12

**From:** Nicolas Meredith <nicksmeredith@gmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/17/2012 9:28 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

58 Charles St  
Erskineville  
NSW 2043

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

Please accept this as a submission on the Camden Gas Project Stage 3 Northern Expansion which is currently on public exhibition. I object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to drill for coal seam gas in Western Sydney.

Please put the health and wellbeing of the people of Greater Western Sydney above the profits of AGL which plans to expand their gas field around and under people's homes and businesses.

I urge you to reject the proposal by AGL to drill 66 new coal seam gas production wells on the grounds that:

- Reports from Queensland and overseas show that there are serious risks to air quality and human health from unconventional gas drilling. However there have been no detailed studies done to quantify those risks especially in urban areas. This drilling must not go ahead without appropriate peer reviewed studies being done.
- Coal seam gas mining does not belong in residential areas, in city areas, near water supplies or farming land. If people do not have the right to object to this activity going on underneath their homes, then the government has an absolute obligation to protect them.
- Homeowners face declining property values within and adjoining coal seam gas fields with some estimating house values may fall up to 30%.
- The integrity of gas wells can't be guaranteed and research from gas fields in Queensland and the US has shown many fail in their first few years. This will leave the community to deal with the impact of leaking wells on air quality and local water supplies.
- New research from Southern Cross University on methane gas leaks from coal seam gas fields has not been considered in the proposal. AGL has not conducted these studies to account for methane leakage on their existing coal seam gas wells.
- Despite research from the Queensland and the US suggesting ground water contamination and gas leaks from fracking, the proposal by AGL will allow fracking.
- The impacts of horizontal drilling have not been adequately considered in the Environmental Assessment.
- There are alternatives to coal seam gas, including renewable energy which can offer energy security without the unacceptable environmental and health risks posed by coal seam gas extraction. We don't want coal seam gas mining in Sydney, NSW or Australia.

Yours sincerely,  
Nicolas Meredith



**From:** Glen Merrett <glen1@tpg.com.au>  
**To:** plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au  
**Date:** 12/21/2012 3:07 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

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Yours sincerely,  
Glen Merrett

**From:** Andrea Methner <andi\_girl1@hotmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/14/2012 12:38 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS: PO Box 467, Edge Hill QLD 4870

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

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Yours sincerely,  
Andrea Methner

**From:** Keith Mewes <keithm2576@gmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/17/2012 6:11 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

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Lastly, I am certainly no expert on this matter, but I do read the reports and articles. However, it does not take an expert to realise that AGL and others are playing with fire. Just the act of pumping the chemicals into the ground is obviously fraught with danger, we really do not have any idea of the dangers involved with this process. Please, please, please, consider the residents (and voters) in all areas under threat from CSG before allowing this to continue. You will have to live with this decision for the rest of your lives, make sure you are comfortable with the decision you make.

Yours sincerely,  
Keith Mewes

**From:** "andre and ingrid" <anding80@hotmail.com>  
**To:** plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au  
**Date:** 12/18/2012 8:12 pm  
**Subject:** camden gas project

To:  
Mining and Industry Projects  
Department of Planning

GPO Box 39  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Sir /Madam,

RE: CAMDEN GAS PROJECT STAGE 3, PROJECT APPLICATION 09\_0048

I object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to mine for coal seam gas (CSG) in Campbelltown and Camden. The reasons for my objections are stated below.

My main concerns are the impact this type of mining could have on human health which relies on healthy environment, clean drinking water, air, soil and economic stability. I fear that all of the above issues are compromised with this controversial drilling technique used in CSG mining, after reading many article's about this method in other states of Australia and the world, I do not feel reassured on past safety record in the industry. Nor is AGL's statement of any comfort, "that it has not ruled out hydraulic fracturing, but if the proposal is approved we intend to use horizontal drilling, which we do not fracture stimulate and which minimises above ground impact," (said by David Kelly Macarthur Chronicle 11/12/2012). This statement is very contradictory, in other words AGL has reserved their right (not to rule out) to use hydraulic fracturing under my only asset, my house when it suits or when technology becomes available, which, for all that I know could be just around the corner. Is AGL going to compensate when accidents happen, or my house value drops because no one wants to live there because of the pollution or incidences. No, of course not, because first we have to prove it, and conveniently AGL has not complied to doing daily air monitoring at Rosalind for the past 3 years, so we have no record if air quality has already been impacted before the next 11 wells go in.

I don't believe there are adequate safeguards for our health when the "NSW Ombudsman has raised serious issues about conflicts of interest in the assessment of CSG developments and under resourcing of compliance and enforcement activities. The same government department is responsible for both promoting investment in the CSG industry and regulating it". So I am expected to trust that AGL is going to look after my concerns when it has been allowed to self monitor, investigate and report on its compliance and incidences? AGL's past breach of its EPL no.12003 at Rosalind Park gives no confidence that this system works in the interest of human health and long term environmental health.

Unless there is improved monitoring, enforcement of compliance and independent research of AGL's activities I strongly object to any further wells being approved in an area where there could be such a big impact of health and environment of 150,000 residents.

I acknowledge that my name will appear on my submission when publicly exhibited.

Yours sincerely

Ingrid Meyer  
16 Amazon Place  
Kearns 2558  
Date 18/12/2012

**From:** Cat Miano <medicinegal@hotmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/13/2012 6:11 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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Yours sincerely,  
Cat Miano

**From:** Paul Miavets <lists@buzbox.net>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/17/2012 9:07 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

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Please put the health and wellbeing of the people of Greater Western Sydney above the profits of AGL who plan to expand their gas field around and under people's homes and businesses.

I urge you to reject the proposal by AGL to drill 66 new coal seam gas production wells on the grounds that:

- Reports from Queensland and overseas show that there are serious risks to air quality and human health from unconventional gas drilling. However there have been no detailed studies done to quantify those risks especially in urban areas. The people of Camden and Campbelltown should not be treated like guinea pigs in a coal seam gas experiment.
- People's homes should not be undermined by coal seam gas drilling without their knowledge or permission.
- Homeowners face declining property values within and adjoining coal seam gas fields with some estimating house values may fall up to 30%.
- The integrity of gas wells can't be guaranteed and research from gas fields in Queensland and the US has shown many fail in their first few year. This will leave the community to deal with the impact of leaking wells on air quality and local water supplies.
- New research from Southern Cross University on methane gas leaks from coal seam gas fields has not been considered in the proposal. AGL has not conducted these studies to account for methane leakage on their existing coal seam gas wells.
- Despite research from the Queensland and the US suggesting ground water contamination and gas leaks from fracking, the proposal by AGL will allow fracking.
- The impacts of horizontal drilling have not been adequately considered in the Environmental Assessment.
- There are alternatives to coal seam gas, including renewable energy which can offer energy security without the unacceptable environmental and health risks posed by coal seam gas extraction.

Yours sincerely,  
Paul Myjavec

**From:** Clare Milledge <clare@claremilledge.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/12/2012 3:52 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

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**From:** Melissa Miller <carsparky@optusnet.com.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/13/2012 11:02 am  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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Yours sincerely,  
Melissa Miller



**From:** Samantha Miller <sam.miller@bigpond.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/18/2012 7:26 am  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

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Yours sincerely,  
Samantha Miller

**From:** William Miller <william.miller42@gmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/18/2012 9:11 am  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

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Yours sincerely,  
William Miller

**From:** Sally Millington <millington16@optus.com.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/13/2012 1:17 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

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Yours sincerely,  
Sally Millington

**From:** Dunnielle Mina <daoofdun@gmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/17/2012 11:26 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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Yours sincerely,  
Dunnielle Mina

**From:** Dorothy Miners <dmulvie@bigpond.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/13/2012 10:00 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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Yours sincerely,  
Dorothy Miners

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

Dear Sir/Madam

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

I object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to mine for coal seam gas (CSG) in Campbelltown and Camden. The key reasons for my objection are stated below.

I am concerned that CSG mining is a technologically-evolving industry whose impacts have not been independently and scientifically fully researched and remain largely unknown. This view is supported by professional organisations and academics in evidence to the NSW Upper House and Senate Inquiries into Coal Seam Gas Mining in 2011 and by subsequent research here and overseas. We have had to rely on the industry for much of our information when the industry has a vested interest in the outcome. AGL is no different. It claims that the Camden Gas Project has been safely operating for 10 years. Yet we understand that impacts on groundwater and air quality have not been adequately monitored, and while AGL has been operating under an Environmental Protection Licence (EPL No. 12003), it has been allowed to self-monitor its compliance, self-investigate incidents and self-report such that we do not know what true impacts it may have had. Third party consultants and external laboratories that are engaged and paid for by the industry are not *independent*. Nor is any funded or co-funded research by the CSG mining industry. These lessons should have been learnt with asbestos in Australia and with 'Big Tobacco' in the USA. The National Water Commission in its Position Statement (3<sup>rd</sup> December 2010) said that impacts may emerge over a long time period. I am deeply concerned that the costs of unforeseen problems will be borne by the community and taxpayers after AGL is long gone from the area. This is grossly irresponsible.

Doctors for the Environment Australia claims that health impacts from CSG mining have not been assessed. Preliminary research from Queensland (e.g. by Southern Cross University in Tara) and overseas is deeply concerning, especially where fracking has been used. As at December 2011, 85% of the production wells in the Camden Gas Project had been fracked (evidence from the NSW Upper House Inquiry) with inadequate monitoring of its impacts on water in particular. AGL claims that the use of horizontal wells in the proposed Stage 3 will reduce the need for fracking, but it seems that this is not entirely true since it has reserved the right to frack these wells in the future if/when the technology becomes available. The size of the proposed well clusters and any fracking of horizontal wells are both new and untested here. It will therefore be entirely experimental with unknown outcomes on health and property including the possibility of subsidence under so many urban properties.

I am also concerned about evidence from Queensland and overseas on air quality and the cumulative impact of AGL's expansion into an area that already experiences incidents of unacceptable levels of air pollution (ozone and fine particles) associated with respiratory problems (NSW Environmental Protection Authority). AGL's past performance gives no confidence that it has not already contributed to this or that it can be managed in the future,

having admitted in August this year that it had not conducted continuous air monitoring at its Rosalind Park Gas Treatment Plant for three years in breach of its EPL No.12003.

Allowing CSG mining in areas that are not zoned for heavy industry undermines zoning controls and confidence in the planning process, and creates severe land use conflicts, economic instability and inequity. It will disrupt religious communities whose vocations have so far been protected by the Scenic Hills zoning; it will place undue burden on small rural allotments whose capacity to cope is severely reduced by size (thereby threatening the survival of the entire historic Scenic Hills), and it is unsightly and unsafe in urban areas with a potential escalation in CSG mining incidents and accidents associated with the more intense urban activity (traffic, people etc.), the presence of children, and potential for vandalism. The consequent impact on land and house values for existing land and home owners may be devastating. For many people the home is their largest asset and is often leveraged to support small business. Any devaluation by bank assessors may destroy livelihoods and life savings.

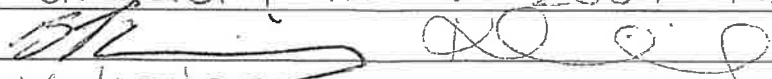
I do not believe that the NSW Government's new regulations for CSG mining will ensure its safe operation here. As the only commercially producing CSG field in NSW, the Camden Gas Project has already been operating under consent conditions. Yet the NSW Government has not been able to ensure compliance, as evidenced by on-going breaches by AGL of its licence conditions, and the discovery of incidents that might not have been reported were it not for community vigilance, such as the Sugarloaf well incident in May 2011 in Menangle that allowed well contents to drift over Sydney's water channel and to nearby Glen Alpine houses.

The proposal poses risks to Sydney's water in general and to the South West in particular that have not been adequately assessed. While AGL claims that the *geology of the Sydney Basin is well known*, AGL's rationale for the constant modification of prior stages of the Camden Gas Project seems to contradict this, as does its admission to the Scenic Hills Association that it does not know where the aquifers here run to but *probably Sydney Harbour*. Potential impacts on Sydney Harbour, on the nearby Sydney Water Catchment, and AGL's proposal to run its gas gathering pipeline along Sydney's Upper Canal on public land are unacceptable risks to Sydney's water, and are an abuse of public property for the benefit of private investors.

AGL will only ever produce about 5% of NSW's gas from the Camden Gas Project according to evidence it gave under oath at the NSW Upper House Inquiry. This does not justify the risks and potential costs to the community, particularly since 150,000+ people already live and work in the immediate affected area, and this is in Sydney's south west growth corridor. It is socially, environmentally and economically unjustified, and has no social licence to operate here.

I acknowledge that my name will appear on my submission when publicly exhibited.

Yours sincerely

Name	BENJAMIN & KYLIE MINING
Address	3 LANCASTER STREET
	GREGORY HILLS 2557 NSW
Signature	
Date	14/12/2012

**Clay Preshaw - Camden Gas Project Stage 3, Project Application 09\_0048**

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**From:** Louise Moffatt <louise@erinds.com>  
**To:** "plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au" <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/10/2012 7:40 PM  
**Subject:** Camden Gas Project Stage 3, Project Application 09\_0048  
**Attachments:** Submission LM.docx

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10.12.12

Louise Moffatt

65 Central Park Drive

Bow Bowling, NSW, 2566

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

**Sent by email to [plan\\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au)**

Dear Sir/Madam

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

I object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to mine for coal seam gas in Campbelltown and Camden. The reasons for my objection are stated below.

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As a mother of two young girls, I am concerned about their future health well-being if this unproven technology goes ahead. Further, I am concerned about our home and land's guaranteed financial security. It cannot be allowed to happen.

Yours sincerely  
Louise Moffatt.

**Clay Preshaw - Camden Gas Project Stage 3, Project Application 09\_0048**

---

**From:** "Mark Moffatt" <mark@erinds.com.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/10/2012 8:05 PM  
**Subject:** Camden Gas Project Stage 3, Project Application 09\_0048

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10.12.12

Mark Moffatt

65 Central Park Drive

Bow Bowling, NSW, 2566

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

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I do not believe that the NSW Government's new regulations for CSG mining will ensure its safe operation here. As the only commercially producing CSG field in NSW, the Camden Gas Project has already been operating under consent conditions. Yet the NSW Government has not been able to ensure compliance, as evidenced by on-going breaches by AGL of its licence conditions, and the discovery of incidents that might not have been reported were it not for community vigilance (such as the Sugarloaf well incident in May 2011 in Menangle, that allowed well contents to drift over Sydney's water channel and to nearby Glen Alpine houses).

The proposal poses risks to Sydney's water in general and to the South West in particular that have not been adequately assessed. While AGL claims that the *geology of the Sydney Basin is well known*, AGL's rationale for the constant modification of prior stages of the Camden Gas Project seems to contradict this, as does its admission to the Scenic Hills Association that it does not know where the aquifers here run to but *probably Sydney Harbour*. Potential impacts on Sydney Harbour, on the nearby Sydney Water Catchment, and AGL's proposal to run its gas gathering pipeline along Sydney's Upper Canal on public land are unacceptable risks to Sydney's water, and are an abuse of public property for the benefit of private investors.

AGL will only ever produce about 5% of NSW's gas from the Camden Gas Project according to evidence it gave under oath at the NSW Upper House Inquiry. This does not justify the risks and potential costs to the community, particularly since 150,000+ people already live and work in the immediate affected area, and this is in Sydney's south west growth corridor. It is socially, environmentally and economically unjustified, and has no social licence to operate here.

As a father of two young girls, I am concerned about their future health and well-being if this unproven technology goes ahead. Further, I am concerned about our home and land's guaranteed financial security. It cannot be allowed to happen.

Yours sincerely

Mark Moffatt.

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(Email Guard: 9.0.0.2308, Virus/Spyware Database: 6.20910)

<http://www.pctools.com>

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**From:** Gabrielle Mogck <guruwari@linknet.com.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/12/2012 10:52 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

207 Fox Rd Rosebank NSW

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

Please accept this as a submission on the Camden Gas Project Stage 3 Northern Expansion which is currently on public exhibition. I object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to drill for coal seam gas in Western Sydney.

Please put the health and wellbeing of the people of Greater Western Sydney above the profits of AGL who plan to expand their gas field around and under people's homes and businesses.

I urge you to reject the proposal by AGL to drill 66 new coal seam gas production wells on the grounds that:

- Reports from Queensland and overseas show that there are serious risks to air quality and human health from unconventional gas drilling. However there have been no detailed studies done to quantify those risks especially in urban areas. The people of Camden and Campbelltown should not be treated like guinea pigs in a coal seam gas experiment.
- People's homes should not be undermined by coal seam gas drilling without their knowledge or permission.
- Homeowners face declining property values within and adjoining coal seam gas fields with some estimating house values may fall up to 30%.
- The integrity of gas wells can't be guaranteed and research from gas fields in Queensland and the US has shown many fail in their first few year. This will leave the community to deal with the impact of leaking wells on air quality and local water supplies.
- New research from Southern Cross University on methane gas leaks from coal seam gas fields has not been considered in the proposal. AGL has not conducted these studies to account for methane leakage on their existing coal seam gas wells.
- Despite research from the Queensland and the US suggesting ground water contamination and gas leaks from fracking, the proposal by AGL will allow fracking.
- The impacts of horizontal drilling have not been adequately considered in the Environmental Assessment.
- There are alternatives to coal seam gas, including renewable energy which can offer energy security without the unacceptable environmental and health risks posed by coal seam gas extraction.

Yours sincerely,  
Gabrielle Mogck

**From:** Sarah Moles <sarah.moles@gmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/13/2012 11:28 am  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

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- The impacts of horizontal drilling have not been adequately considered in the Environmental Assessment.
- There are alternatives to coal seam gas, including renewable energy which can offer energy security without the unacceptable environmental and health risks posed by coal seam gas extraction.

Yours sincerely,  
Sarah Moles



To:

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

Dear Sir/Madam

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

I object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to mine for coal seam gas (CSG) in Campbelltown and Camden. The key reasons for my objection are stated below.

I am concerned that CSG mining is a technologically-evolving industry whose impacts have not been independently and scientifically fully researched and remain largely unknown. This view is supported by professional organisations and academics in evidence to the NSW Upper House and Senate Inquiries into Coal Seam Gas Mining in 2011 and by subsequent research here and overseas. We have had to rely on the industry for much of our information when the industry has a vested interest in the outcome. AGL is no different. It claims that the Camden Gas Project has been safely operating for 10 years. Yet we understand that impacts on groundwater and air quality have not been adequately monitored, and while AGL has been operating under an Environmental Protection Licence (EPL No. 12003), it has been allowed to self-monitor its compliance, self-investigate incidents and self-report such that we do not know what true impacts it may have had. Third party consultants and external laboratories that are engaged and paid for by the industry are not *independent*. Nor is any funded or co-funded research by the CSG mining industry. These lessons should have been learnt with asbestos in Australia and with 'Big Tobacco' in the USA. The National Water Commission in its Position Statement (3<sup>rd</sup> December 2010) said that impacts may emerge over a long time period. I am deeply concerned that the costs of unforeseen problems will be borne by the community and taxpayers after AGL is long gone from the area. This is grossly irresponsible.

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I acknowledge that my name will appear on my submission when publicly exhibited.

Yours sincerely

Name	Katrina Molluso
Address	94 Taylors Rd, Silverdale NSW
Signature	
Date	18/12/2012

**From:** Sarah Monahan <Bellystarm@hotmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/14/2012 4:55 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

Please accept this as a submission on the Camden Gas Project Stage 3 Northern Expansion which is currently on public exhibition. I object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to drill for coal seam gas in Western Sydney.

Please put the health and wellbeing of the people of Greater Western Sydney above the profits of AGL who plan to expand their gas field around and under people's homes and businesses.

I urge you to reject the proposal by AGL to drill 66 new coal seam gas production wells on the grounds that:

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- The impacts of horizontal drilling have not been adequately considered in the Environmental Assessment.
- There are alternatives to coal seam gas, including renewable energy which can offer energy security without the unacceptable environmental and health risks posed by coal seam gas extraction.

Yours sincerely,  
Sarah Monahan

4/12/12

Deb & Ian Montgomery  
11 Indigofera Circuit  
Mount Annan NSW 2567

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

**Sent by email to [plan\\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au)**

Dear Sir/Madam

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

We object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to mine for coal seam gas in Campbelltown and Camden. The reasons for our objection are stated below.

We choose to live in this area because the air and water are fresh and clean. There is peace and quiet and we enjoy the open spaces with our children and grandchildren.

We have read many reports about "fracking" and totally object to the needless mining in this area. Australia has sufficient gas supply, we should stop exporting and leave our residential areas just, that.....residential and NOT industrial.

You can make our names public on the Department's website and to AGL.

Yours sincerely



Deb Montgomery



Ian Montgomery

Concerned Citizens and Residents.

**From:** Tim Mooney <tim\_mooney@hotmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/17/2012 8:46 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

My Address: 1/32 May Lane, Neutral Bay, NSW, 2089

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

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Yours sincerely,  
Tim Mooney

**From:** diane moore <ponymoore@westnet.com.au>  
**To:** plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au  
**Date:** 12/18/2012 1:43 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS: 11 sandstone crescent lennox head NSW

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

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Yours sincerely,  
diane moore

To:

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

Dear Sir/Madam

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

I object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to mine for coal seam gas (CSG) in Campbelltown and Camden. The key reasons for my objection are stated below.

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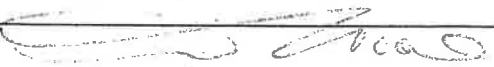
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I acknowledge that my name will appear on my submission when publicly exhibited.

Yours sincerely

Name	John Moore
Address	17 Marsanne Place, Eschol Park NSW 2558
Signature	
Date	11 December 2012

**From:** Lauren Moore <Lozmatron@yahoo.com.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/12/2012 7:37 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

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Yours sincerely,  
Lauren Moore



**From:** Margaret Moore <margaret.s1@hotmail.com>  
**To:** plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au  
**Date:** 12/19/2012 4:12 am  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS: 18 Harrington Parkway Harrington Park

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

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Yours sincerely,  
Margaret Moore

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

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I am also concerned about evidence from Queensland and overseas on air quality and the cumulative impact of AGL's expansion into an area that already experiences incidents of unacceptable levels of air pollution (ozone and fine particles) associated with respiratory problems (NSW Environmental Protection Authority). AGL's past performance gives no confidence that it has not already contributed to this or that it can be managed in the future,

having admitted in August this year that it had not conducted continuous air monitoring at its Rosalind Park Gas Treatment Plant for three years in breach of its EPL No.12003.

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I do not believe that the NSW Government's new regulations for CSG mining will ensure its safe operation here. As the only commercially producing CSG field in NSW, the Camden Gas Project has already been operating under consent conditions. Yet the NSW Government has not been able to ensure compliance, as evidenced by on-going breaches by AGL of its licence conditions, and the discovery of incidents that might not have been reported were it not for community vigilance, such as the Sugarloaf well incident in May 2011 in Menangle that allowed well contents to drift over Sydney's water channel and to nearby Glen Alpine houses.

The proposal poses risks to Sydney's water in general and to the South West in particular that have not been adequately assessed. While AGL claims that the *geology of the Sydney Basin is well known*, AGL's rationale for the constant modification of prior stages of the Camden Gas Project seems to contradict this, as does its admission to the Scenic Hills Association that it does not know where the aquifers here run to but *probably Sydney Harbour*. Potential impacts on Sydney Harbour, on the nearby Sydney Water Catchment, and AGL's proposal to run its gas gathering pipeline along Sydney's Upper Canal on public land are unacceptable risks to Sydney's water, and are an abuse of public property for the benefit of private investors.

AGL will only ever produce about 5% of NSW's gas from the Camden Gas Project according to evidence it gave under oath at the NSW Upper House Inquiry. This does not justify the risks and potential costs to the community, particularly since 150,000+ people already live and work in the immediate affected area, and this is in Sydney's south west growth corridor. It is socially, environmentally and economically unjustified, and has no social licence to operate here.

I acknowledge that my name will appear on my submission when publicly exhibited.

Yours sincerely

Name	Richard Hladue
Address	7 Jack Davis Place
	Bargo
Signature	R. Hladue
Date	13/12/12

To:

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

Dear Sir/Madam

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

I object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to mine for coal seam gas (CSG) in Campbelltown and Camden. The key reasons for my objection are stated below.

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I acknowledge that my name will appear on my submission when publicly exhibited.

Yours sincerely

Name	SHIRLEY MORDUE
Address	6 WILLIS STREET
	OAKALE
Signature	<i>S. J. Mordue</i>
Date	12-12-2012

**From:** Joanne Morgan <jgje1@bigpond.net.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/12/2012 11:54 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

Please accept this as a submission on the Camden Gas Project Stage 3 Northern Expansion which is currently on public exhibition. I object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to drill for coal seam gas in Western Sydney.

Please put the health and wellbeing of the people of Greater Western Sydney above the profits of AGL who plan to expand their gas field around and under people's homes and businesses.

I urge you to reject the proposal by AGL to drill 66 new coal seam gas production wells on the grounds that:

- Reports from Queensland and overseas show that there are serious risks to air quality and human health from unconventional gas drilling. However there have been no detailed studies done to quantify those risks especially in urban areas. The people of Camden and Campbelltown should not be treated like guinea pigs in a coal seam gas experiment.
- People's homes should not be undermined by coal seam gas drilling without their knowledge or permission.
- Homeowners face declining property values within and adjoining coal seam gas fields with some estimating house values may fall up to 30%.
- The integrity of gas wells can't be guaranteed and research from gas fields in Queensland and the US has shown many fail in their first few year. This will leave the community to deal with the impact of leaking wells on air quality and local water supplies.
- New research from Southern Cross University on methane gas leaks from coal seam gas fields has not been considered in the proposal. AGL has not conducted these studies to account for methane leakage on their existing coal seam gas wells.
- Despite research from the Queensland and the US suggesting ground water contamination and gas leaks from fracking, the proposal by AGL will allow fracking.
- The impacts of horizontal drilling have not been adequately considered in the Environmental Assessment.
- There are alternatives to coal seam gas, including renewable energy which can offer energy security without the unacceptable environmental and health risks posed by coal seam gas extraction.

**From:** Kerrie Morgan <kerrie.gaywood@gmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/15/2012 6:50 am  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

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**From:** Nikko Morganlowe <funkn78@hotmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/18/2012 9:22 am  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

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Yours sincerely,  
Nikko Morganlowe



To: 5

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

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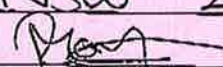
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I acknowledge that my name will appear on my submission when publicly exhibited.

Yours sincerely

Name	Richelle Morley
Address	35 Fysh Avenue Middleton Grange
	NSW 2171
Signature	
Date	18/12/12

**From:** Jacqueline Morris <jmo65203@bigpond.net.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/13/2012 9:09 am  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

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Yours sincerely,  
Jacqueline Morris

**From:** Jennifer Morrison <stephenandjennifer.m@gmail.com>  
**To:** plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au  
**Date:** 12/18/2012 4:32 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

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Yours sincerely,  
Jennifer Morrison

**From:** Rebekah Morrison <bekahbug84@gmail.com>  
**To:** plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au  
**Date:** 12/18/2012 9:27 pm  
**Subject:** Protect our Western Sydney - PLEASE!!!!

Unit 704/91B Bridge Road  
Westmead 2145  
0422188475

Re: Camden Gas Project

We're not trash out here.  
Please don't treat us that way.

Thankyou.

Rebekah Morrison

**From:** Lizzie Mortimer <elisabeth.mortimer@gmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/18/2012 9:43 am  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS: 151, Newee Creek Road, 2447

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Yours sincerely,  
Lizzie Mortimer

**From:** Michael Mortimer <mjcsr16@aapt.net.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/18/2012 9:02 am  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

16 Peugeot Drive  
Ingleburn NSW 2565:

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

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Yours sincerely,  
Michael Mortimer

**From:** Robin Mosman <rwmosman@bigpond.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/12/2012 8:12 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

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- The impacts of horizontal drilling have not been adequately considered in the Environmental Assessment.
- There are alternatives to coal seam gas, including renewable energy which can offer energy security without the unacceptable environmental and health risks posed by coal seam gas extraction.

Yours sincerely,  
Robin Mosman



**From:** Nigel Moss-Hodge <Nigelmosshodge@gmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/17/2012 10:46 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS: 219 Victoria Rd Marrickville 2204

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

Please accept this as a submission on the Camden Gas Project Stage 3 Northern Expansion which is currently on public exhibition. I object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to drill for coal seam gas in Western Sydney.

Please put the health and wellbeing of the people of Greater Western Sydney above the profits of AGL who plan to expand their gas field around and under people's homes and businesses.

I urge you to reject the proposal by AGL to drill 66 new coal seam gas production wells on the grounds that:

- Reports from Queensland and overseas show that there are serious risks to air quality and human health from unconventional gas drilling. However there have been no detailed studies done to quantify those risks especially in urban areas. The people of Camden and Campbelltown should not be treated like guinea pigs in a coal seam gas experiment.
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- There are alternatives to coal seam gas, including renewable energy which can offer energy security without the unacceptable environmental and health risks posed by coal seam gas extraction.

Yours sincerely,  
Nigel Moss-Hodge

**From:** Sue Gordon <sgordon@mdsi.org.au>  
**To:** "plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au" <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/17/2012 1:02 pm  
**Subject:** Submission to Coal seam Gas - Camden/Campbelltown Expansion  
**Attachments:** Submission to Coal seam Gas.pdf

Please accept my submission

Please acknowledge receipt, regards, Sue Mossman

Mining and Industry Projects  
Department of Planning  
GPO Box 39  
SYDNEY NSW 2001  
[plan\\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au)

Dear Sir/Madam

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

My name is Sue Mossman, 56 Wills Rd, Macquarie Fields NSW 2564

As a resident of Campbelltown Council, I am concerned with and opposed to the Camden Gas Project Stage 3, Project Application 09\_0048 for the following reasons:

The uncertainty of the long term damage of CSG due to

- a) The environment air pollution through methane leaks
- b) Potential contamination of toxic substances to precious soil and underground and above ground water supply due to the fracking chemicals used
- c) The implications to long term food production systems in the region
- d) The effect on human health as reported in many areas and publications.

While this uncertainty exists I do not believe that this should be occurring so close to human settlement in Campbelltown particularly, or should not be occurring at all within Australia in any capacity where water, underground water and agriculture exist.

As a resident of NSW and as a voter, I believe the government should be caring for the interests of people, not that of big business. It is the Department of Planning, the Minister of Planning and the Premier of NSW who should be watching out for the potential damage of an activity both for the short term effect and the long effect on my children, and grandchildren in the future.

Furthermore, as a rate payer and landowner in this area, if there is any chance that my property is damaged due to contamination or that property prices fall due to CSG activity, I will join any class action against the State Government and AGL for this damage to my land and asset.

Yours sincerely,

Sue Mossman  
17 December 2012

**From:** Susan Mot <soleserenity@iprimus.com.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/13/2012 8:19 am  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

Please accept this as a submission on the Camden Gas Project Stage 3 Northern Expansion which is currently on public exhibition. I object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to drill for coal seam gas in Western Sydney.

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- The impacts of horizontal drilling have not been adequately considered in the Environmental Assessment.
- There are alternatives to coal seam gas, including renewable energy which can offer energy security without the unacceptable environmental and health risks posed by coal seam gas extraction.

Yours sincerely,  
Susan Mot

**From:** Joy Mozzi <joy\_mozzi@yahoo.com.au>  
**To:** plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au  
**Date:** 12/18/2012 9:15 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS: 13 Percy St, Greystanes NSW 2145

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

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Yours sincerely,  
Joy Mozzi

**From:** Keith Muir <keith\_muir@optusnet.com.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/13/2012 9:07 am  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

Mr Keith Muir  
61 Egan St  
Newtown NSW 2042

Dear Sir/Madam,

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

Please accept this as a submission on the Camden Gas Project Stage 3 Northern Expansion which is currently on public exhibition. I object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to drill for coal seam gas in Western Sydney.

Please put the health and wellbeing of the people of Greater Western Sydney above the profits of AGL who plan to expand their gas field around and under people's homes and businesses.

I also fear that the next move could be exploration in the Blue Mountains system of reserves, starting with the Burragorang and Bargo State Conservation Areas, and then the Nattai National Park in the World Heritage Area.

I urge you to reject the proposal by AGL to drill 66 new coal seam gas production wells on the grounds that:

- Reports from Queensland and overseas show that there are serious risks to air quality and human health from unconventional gas drilling. However there have been no detailed studies done to quantify those risks especially in urban areas. The people of Camden and Campbelltown should not be treated like guinea pigs in a coal seam gas experiment.
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- The impacts of horizontal drilling have not been adequately considered in the Environmental Assessment.
- There are alternatives to coal seam gas, including renewable energy which can offer energy security without the unacceptable environmental and health risks posed by coal seam gas extraction.

This proposal is just one step in a bigger development picture which is in fact a giant experiment into whether the impacts can be managed. The political risks of allowing this experiment are high and avoidable. I urge you to reject this proposal.

Yours sincerely,

Keith Muir

**From:** Deborah Mullins <devaaviram@gmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/12/2012 10:01 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS: 5 Chiltern Rd Denmark

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

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Yours sincerely,  
Deborah Mullins



**From:** Claire Munro <Claire.h.munro@gmail.com>  
**To:** plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au  
**Date:** 12/18/2012 12:21 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

Please accept this as a submission on the Camden Gas Project Stage 3 Northern Expansion which is currently on public exhibition. I object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to drill for coal seam gas in Western Sydney.

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Yours sincerely,  
Claire Munro

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

Dear Sir/Madam

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

I object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to mine for coal seam gas (CSG) in Campbelltown and Camden. The key reasons for my objection are stated below.

I am concerned that CSG mining is a technologically-evolving industry whose impacts have not been independently and scientifically fully researched and remain largely unknown. This view is supported by professional organisations and academics in evidence to the NSW Upper House and Senate Inquiries into Coal Seam Gas Mining in 2011 and by subsequent research here and overseas. We have had to rely on the industry for much of our information when the industry has a vested interest in the outcome. AGL is no different. It claims that the Camden Gas Project has been safely operating for 10 years. Yet we understand that impacts on groundwater and air quality have not been adequately monitored, and while AGL has been operating under an Environmental Protection Licence (EPL No. 12003), it has been allowed to self-monitor its compliance, self-investigate incidents and self-report such that we do not know what true impacts it may have had. Third party consultants and external laboratories that are engaged and paid for by the industry are not *independent*. Nor is any funded or co-funded research by the CSG mining industry. These lessons should have been learnt with asbestos in Australia and with 'Big Tobacco' in the USA. The National Water Commission in its Position Statement (3<sup>rd</sup> December 2010) said that impacts may emerge over a long time period. I am deeply concerned that the costs of unforeseen problems will be borne by the community and taxpayers after AGL is long gone from the area. This is grossly irresponsible.

Doctors for the Environment Australia claims that health impacts from CSG mining have not been assessed. Preliminary research from Queensland (e.g. by Southern Cross University in Tara) and overseas is deeply concerning, especially where fracking has been used. As at December 2011, 85% of the production wells in the Camden Gas Project had been fracked (evidence from the NSW Upper House Inquiry) with inadequate monitoring of its impacts on water in particular. AGL claims that the use of horizontal wells in the proposed Stage 3 will reduce the need for fracking, but it seems that this is not entirely true since it has reserved the right to frack these wells in the future if/when the technology becomes available. The size of the proposed well clusters and any fracking of horizontal wells are both new and untested here. It will therefore be entirely experimental with unknown outcomes on health and property including the possibility of subsidence under so many urban properties.

I am also concerned about evidence from Queensland and overseas on air quality and the cumulative impact of AGL's expansion into an area that already experiences incidents of unacceptable levels of air pollution (ozone and fine particles) associated with respiratory problems (NSW Environmental Protection Authority). AGL's past performance gives no confidence that it has not already contributed to this or that it can be managed in the future,

having admitted in August this year that it had not conducted continuous air monitoring at its Rosalind Park Gas Treatment Plant for three years in breach of its EPL No.12003.

Allowing CSG mining in areas that are not zoned for heavy industry undermines zoning controls and confidence in the planning process, and creates severe land use conflicts, economic instability and inequity. It will disrupt religious communities whose vocations have so far been protected by the Scenic Hills zoning; it will place undue burden on small rural allotments whose capacity to cope is severely reduced by size (thereby threatening the survival of the entire historic Scenic Hills), and it is unsightly and unsafe in urban areas with a potential escalation in CSG mining incidents and accidents associated with the more intense urban activity (traffic, people etc.), the presence of children, and potential for vandalism. The consequent impact on land and house values for existing land and home owners may be devastating. For many people the home is their largest asset and is often leveraged to support small business. Any devaluation by bank assessors may destroy livelihoods and life savings.

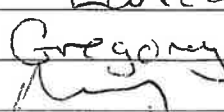
I do not believe that the NSW Government's new regulations for CSG mining will ensure its safe operation here. As the only commercially producing CSG field in NSW, the Camden Gas Project has already been operating under consent conditions. Yet the NSW Government has not been able to ensure compliance, as evidenced by on-going breaches by AGL of its licence conditions, and the discovery of incidents that might not have been reported were it not for community vigilance, such as the Sugarloaf well incident in May 2011 in Menangle that allowed well contents to drift over Sydney's water channel and to nearby Glen Alpine houses.

The proposal poses risks to Sydney's water in general and to the South West in particular that have not been adequately assessed. While AGL claims that the *geology of the Sydney Basin is well known*, AGL's rationale for the constant modification of prior stages of the Camden Gas Project seems to contradict this, as does its admission to the Scenic Hills Association that it does not know where the aquifers here run to but *probably Sydney Harbour*. Potential impacts on Sydney Harbour, on the nearby Sydney Water Catchment, and AGL's proposal to run its gas gathering pipeline along Sydney's Upper Canal on public land are unacceptable risks to Sydney's water, and are an abuse of public property for the benefit of private investors.

AGL will only ever produce about 5% of NSW's gas from the Camden Gas Project according to evidence it gave under oath at the NSW Upper House Inquiry. This does not justify the risks and potential costs to the community, particularly since 150,000+ people already live and work in the immediate affected area, and this is in Sydney's south west growth corridor. It is socially, environmentally and economically unjustified, and has no social licence to operate here.

I acknowledge that my name will appear on my submission when publicly exhibited.

Yours sincerely

Name	Paul + Kim Murphy
Address	5 Lancaster
	Gregory Hills
Signature	
Date	12/12/12

**From:** Andrew Murray <andrewglenmurray@gmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/13/2012 10:56 am  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

69 Edden St, Bellbird, NSW 2325

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

Please accept this as a submission on the Camden Gas Project Stage 3 Northern Expansion which is currently on public exhibition. I object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to drill for coal seam gas in Western Sydney.

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Yours sincerely,  
Andrew Murray

[New South Wales Government](#)

[Department of Planning](#)

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## **Andrew Murray, of Woonona NSW, made the following submission on the project:**

### **Camden Gas Project Stage 3 Northern Expansion**



#### **Objects to this project**

The Scenic Hills are zoned Environmental Protection, prohibiting extractive industries and mines. State legislation allows this to be ignored and this development will industrialise an environmentally protected area.

AGL's main gas gathering pipeline will run beside the Upper Canal, part of Sydney's drinking water catchment. AGL also do not know where the aquifers in the area flow to but "probably Sydney Harbour".

AGL is an unsuitable proponent. There has been non-compliance with conditions of the Camden Gas Projects' Environmental Protection Licence each year since it was issued in 2004. AGL has also failed to conduct continuous air monitoring at its Rosalind Park Gas Treatment Plant for 3 years and is now the subject of an investigation by the Environment Protection Authority.

CSG mining poses risks to water, land and air that require further research. In this context, no new applications or modifications should be approved and existing projects should be frozen, to conduct an investigation into if and under what conditions CSG mining is safe

**From:** Janine Musgrove <janinemusgrove@hotmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/12/2012 9:38 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

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Yours sincerely,  
Janine Musgrove

**From:** Monica Muxlow <momux@aapt.net.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/15/2012 8:03 am  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS: 27 Ocean Drive,  
Wallabi Point  
NSW 2430

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

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Yours sincerely,  
Monica Muxlow

**From:** Shane Myers <louism99@hotmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/17/2012 7:37 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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