

**From:** Bart R <ber75@bigpond.net.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/16/2012 11:54 am  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS: Belfield

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,  
Bart R

**From:** Judith Raabe <jraa0311@gmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/14/2012 2:46 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

PO BOX 5  
MACLEAN NSW 2463:

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

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I used to live in Woonona (2517) and the Camden/Campbelltown area is special to me.

Yours sincerely,  
Judith Raabe

**From:** Stuart Railton <stuartr@dodo.com.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/14/2012 9:11 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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Yours sincerely,  
Stuart Railton

**From:** Sean rainey <sean@reikan.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/17/2012 4:24 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,  
Sean rainey

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

Dear Sir or 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.

I am concerned that the impacts of CSG mining have not been independently and scientifically fully researched and are largely unknown. This view is supported by professional organisations and academics in evidence to the NSW Upper House and Senate inquiries into CSG Mining in 2011 and by subsequent research both here and overseas. We do not know the true impacts and thus long term effects on our environment and health. AGL, operating under EPL No 12003 has not been allowed to self monitor its compliance, self investigate incidents and self report. There are no INDEPENDENT bodies engaged for this monitoring. Have we not learnt from the Tobacco and asbestos industries in USA and Australia.

Doctors for the Environment Australia claim that the health impacts have not been fully researched. Should it not be proven that there will be no long term, or short term health effects (Queensland is already evidencing these problems). Continuous air monitoring was not conducted at the Rosalind Park gas Treatment Plant for 3 years – a breach of its EPL No. 12003.

The proposals puts risks to Sydney's water in general and to the South West that has not been adequately assessed. AGL does not seem to know where the aquifers here run to, so regardless of where significant risks are posed to the people's water supply.

As 150000+ people reside in the growth corridor of Sydney's South West, I believe it to be economically, environmentally and socially unjustified to continue with this Camden Gas Project. It is an invasion and abuse of private property.

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

Yours sincerely

Name *A-K. RAISTRICK*  
Address *239 COBBITTY Rd COBBITTY*  
Signature *A-K. Raistrick*  
Date *17/12/12*

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

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Yours sincerely

Name L.F. RAISTRICK  
Address 239 COBBITTY Rd COBBITTY  
Signature   
Date

**From:** Jan Rajnoch <rajnochjan@gmail.com>  
**To:** plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au  
**Date:** 12/18/2012 7:27 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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Yours sincerely,  
Jan Rajnoch

**From:** georgina ramsay <mattram@harboursat.com.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/17/2012 5:07 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

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Yours sincerely,  
georgina ramsay



**From:** David Ramsey <dayviebob@yahoo.com.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/12/2012 9:48 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

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I was until recently a customer of AGL for domestic electricity supply. Since hearing of their plans I have not renewed my contract with them, and I refuse to do business with any company that is involved in CSG mining activities.

Yours sincerely,  
David Ramsey

**From:** Neil Rankin <nrankin@bigpond.net.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/17/2012 11:52 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

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**From:** Dorian Rathmanner <drathmanner@yahoo.com.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/13/2012 5:51 am  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:  
22 Crown St  
Lismore  
NSW 2480

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Dorian Rathmanner

**From:** Dave Reardon <dreardon@ljhc.com.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/14/2012 11:14 am  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS: 137c Old Bells Line Of Road Kurrajong

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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	Gloria Reddy
Address	28 Kembla Cokes
	Rural 2560 NSW
Signature	Gloria Reddy
Date	7/12/12

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.

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 Canol 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	Greg Redman
Address	1 Congo Place
	Kearns N.S.W.
Signature	Greg Redman
Date	13/12/2012



12 December 2012

Ms Maria Redman

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**

It is a fact that CSG mining would be self-regulating which never works; you only have to look at the banks to see how good that works. This technology has not been independently researched so no one fully knows the impacts and consequences this will have on our environment and health. Relying on AGL for information is just absolutely ridiculous when you consider what they have to gain if it goes ahead.

I know from watching the American documentary titled 'Gasland' what happens to the environment and health of the people who live with fractured gas mining, and is being allowed to spread and decimate throughout America. I would strongly advise your entire department to watch this documentary and then you would understand peoples panic and fear of what is being contemplated. I understand that they use fracking in America and that AGL's intent is not fracking, only when necessary, but there is evidence of AGL fracking 85% of the Camden Gas Project.

I'm also nervous because this has never been done in residential areas, therefore we are all guinea pigs and no one can say this is 100% safe to people and their environment. Once AGL or any other company is allowed to coal seam gas mine in residential areas there will be no way to ever stop it, it will continue to grow and spread just like America. I have enough worries in my life, as do everyone else and I absolutely resent having this black cloud hang over me. If AGL is allowed to mine in my area and my worst fears come to fruition no amount of compensation will make up for my children's ill health and perhaps that of their children.

I live in Kearns because of the scenic hills, they will be ruined and my home will devalue and I won't be able to sell. And let's talk about how clean this energy really is. If there is a gas leak and that is a given it will happen, how is that clean for the people in that area. Then there's noise pollution having to hear the trucks come in on a regular basis. There is no guarantee there will never be a gas explosion near or under peoples homes. Then I also worry about what it will do to our water, Just watch 'Gasland' then you will understand my fear and panic. We are all told to conserve water not to waste any, but what about the billions of litres of water AGL will have to use, how is that

environmentally friendly? And then how and where will the contaminated water be disposed of safely without risk to any other environment and people?

I trust that you will do what is fair and just. I don't see why my children, neighbours, community and myself should pay the price for greed and self-gain in the name of 'clean energy and better for environment than electricity' when that is clearly claptrap,

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

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Maria Redman".

Ms Maria Redman  
1 Congo Place  
Kearns NSW 2558

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	SANDRA REDMOND
Address	56 RICHMOND CR
	CAMPBELLTOWN NSW 2560
Signature	<i>S Redmond</i>
Date	12.12.12.

**From:** Georgina Reed <georginareed@aapt.net.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/13/2012 12:02 am  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

271 Sailors Bay Road, Northbridge 2063:

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,  
Georgina Reed

**From:** Isabel Reed <i.reed747@gmail.com>  
**To:** plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au  
**Date:** 12/18/2012 5:48 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS: 58 Monastir Road, Phegans Bay 2256

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,  
Isabel Reed

**From:** Caroline Reid <Carolinereid94@yahoo.com.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/13/2012 6:32 am  
**Subject:** Camden Gas Project Stage 3: No Baseline Public Health Studies

MY ADDRESS: 47 Lieberts Lane BRUNKERVILLE 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.

My concerns relate primarily to three things, potential dewatering of the coal seam and the subsequent leakage of methane and other volatile organic chemicals through soil structures; the gas pipeline and other infrastructure gas fire and brushfire risk and the lack of baseline and ongoing monitoring of non-methane hydrocarbon chemicals that contaminate the 'natural' gas to public health. However, I also object on the grounds that as infrastructure and residential areas, particularly without public and individual householder consent are absent.

My understanding is that there are NO public health exposure standards established in NSW for exposure to residents to gases generated by an adjacent business and, even if there were, MIT would not currently apply to nor would applicants be required to under planning arrangements, onshore has mining activities. This is outrageous and infringes basic civil rights because there is thus NO requirement NOR the means to undertake a public health risk assessment.

There are NO published gas compositional details for citizens to examine. My understanding is that 10-15% of gas wells onshore comprise non-methane volatile organic chemicals such as toluene, xylene etc. most of these chemicals are highly irritant to the nose, throat and upper respiratory tract and with chronic exposure are also carcinogenic and reprotoxic. I am not aware of data which should be publicly available from AGL on well gas composition in this area.

Due to the secrecy of this industry and the disinformation that CSG is 'pure', very few public health studies have been done. However those that have have established chronic residential exposure to non methane hydrocarbons is a real concern and public health threat to all residents, let alone particularly sensitive individuals, such as children. Please impose the condition to conduct a health impact study including public health baseline toxicology and air quality monitoring as well as ongoing health surveillance and air monitoring on this project.

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,  
Caroline Reid



**From:** "Julie A. Stevens" <Julie\_Stevens@linfox.com>  
**To:** "plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au" <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/14/2012 9:21 am  
**Subject:** Objection Letter Camden Gas Project Stage 3  
**Attachments:** 0123\_001.pdf

Hello,

Please find objection letter for your attention.

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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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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 SPL 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.

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

Yours sincerely

Name	Haley Reo
Address	11 Mackenzie Pl Kearns
Signature	
Date	14.12.12

[New South Wales Government](#)

[Department of Planning](#)

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**Jarrold Reid, of Glen Alpine NSW, made the following submission on the project:**

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

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### **Objects to this project**

Hello. I have lived in the Campbelltown area throughout all of my life, including the Kearns area. If these new developments result in any health issues to myself and the community, action will be taken.

**From:** Wayne Reid <waynebow2012@yahoo.com.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/12/2012 11:42 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

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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- 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,  
Wayne Reid

8<sup>th</sup> December 2012

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

Dear Sir or Madam:

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

I strongly object to AGL's Project application 09\_0048 for coal seam gas in Campbelltown and Camden. The reasons for my objections are listed below.

- The Macarthur Area is being transformed from a semi rural area into a suburb area. Mining has no place in the Sydney metropolitan area, potentially affecting 150,000 plus residence. Land is being sold in New suburbs right along side proposed well sights. Many residences are not aware of AGL plans for Coal Seam Gas Mining. AGL has made a very poor effort of informing the people Macarthur about their plans.
- I purchased my property in a Scenic Protection Area. A scenic protection area is supposed to be protected from all types mining (including gas extraction) and heavy industry. If the government overrides the protection area guidelines, does this now open the floodgates for any other protected areas to be mined?
- The health of my family will be affected; what will be in the air we breathe. The only source of drinking water I have is from rainwater collected from my roof, what will be in the water I drink. Two dams on my property provide water for native birds, animals, my gardens, including my vegetable garden, will this water be contaminated. Evidence is now emerging of health problems of people living in Gas Extraction areas in Queensland and the USA. All issues of health must be thoroughly investigated, a completely independent study need to be done now!
- My home is within the 2.5 kilometre range from a proposed well, will the drilling, heavy machinery and trucks keep us awake day and night. My husband is a shift worker will he be able to get any sleep in the day?
- Gas mining could potentially cause subsidence damaging the foundations of my home, pool, garage, driveway, paths and gardens. Who will compensate me for damaged caused?
- The value of my property will be affected. If my house is in a gas field I will never be able to sell it, which means it is worthless. Who will compensate me? I was planning on renovating my house; all plans are now on hold till I know the outcome.

- AGL is supposed to be using renewable sources, Coal seam gas wells only produce gas for ten to fifteen years, how is this renewable, once its gone its gone.
- AGL will only ever supply 5% of the state's gas needs from the Camden Gas project, while the gas from Bass Straight has enough gas to supply the East Coast of Australia indefinitely.

It is morally wrong to force the 150,000 plus residence of the Macarthur area, in an experiment of gas mining in a metropolitan area, in all fairness would you allow this next to your home. This project is all about profit for the shareholders of AGL, a private company at the expense of the people of Macarthur.

In Australia we live in a democratic country where we believe in giving everyone a fair go, the people in Macarthur are entitled to breathe fresh air, drink clean water, and live in a quiet and peaceful environment in the privacy of there own homes.

**GIVE THE PEOPLE OF MACARTHUR A FAIR GO - STOP COAL SEAM GAS MINING!!!**

Yours Sincerely,

Maree Reilly  
12 St James Road,  
Varroville NSW 2566

14<sup>th</sup> December 2012

Mining and Industries Projects  
Department of Planning  
GPO Box 39  
Sydney NSW 2001

Dear Sir or Madam;

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

I object to AGL'S Project Application 09\_0048 to mine Coal Seam Gas (CSG) in the Camden and Campbelltown Area. My reasons are as follows.

The impact of coal seam gas mining on the environment has not been fully investigated and probably won't be for some time as it is a continuously evolving industry and I don't feel the 150,000 residents of Macarthur should be used as Test Subjects on behalf of AGL.

Along with others in my semi-rural area we don't have town water and rely on Tank water collected from the roof every time it rains. What chemicals will be on my roof and in this water when coal seam gas mining starts? Will AGL or the NSW Government compensate me and my family for loss of health bought about by these chemicals or will it be a long painstaking case similar to Asbestos.

AGL have stated that to sink a well they will drill 24 hours a day seven days a week for seven weeks and in all mining sites they intend to sink up to six wells, even at 2.5 kilometres from the mine forty weeks of drilling will deny loads of people a lot of sleep.

AGL have, as they did in Camden, stated that they don't intend to use fracking but time has proved that to be false. I have two dams on my property that I use to irrigate my gardens, will this water vanish when fracking starts or simply be contaminated by methane and other poisonous gases streaming up through the ground. Neither AGL nor the NSW Government has made any attempt to take baseline samples of local water nor do they intend to do so


As has been the case at other coal seam gas mining sites the local air stinks of something although methane may be hard for the human nose to detect other gases associated with it definitely are not, however, the harm done by methane and other gases from coal seam gas mining certainly is detectable long term on the health of everyone in the area.

I intend to retire in a few years and sell my property will the NSW Government or AGL compensate me for the loss of value of my home which may be in the centre of a coal seam gas field.

The question needs to be asked as to why when Australia's gas fields (like Bass Straight where nobody lives) can keep Australia in gas for a hundred years do we need to put the health of 150 000 residents at risk to satisfy 5% of the gas needs of NSW and the pockets of AGL Shareholders.

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

Yours sincerely

Name	Terence John Reilly
Address	12 St. James Road Varroville 2566
Signature	
Date	14th December 2012



**From:** April Reside <april.reside@gmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/13/2012 10:09 am  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

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,  
April Reside

**From:** Deanne Reyes <info@deannereyes.com.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/17/2012 6:13 pm  
**Subject:** Saying no to CSG  
**Attachments:** Pro Form Submission CGP3.docx

This is ludicrous and all about money instead of thinking of the future  
water supply and our health.  
Someone has to listen.  
Will you be the one?

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

<b>Name</b>	Deanne Reyes
<b>Address</b>	48 Dan Street Campbelltown
<b>Signature<sup>DR</sup></b>	
<b>Date</b>	17 <sup>th</sup> of December 2012

**From:** paul reynolds <preynolds@aapt.net.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/12/2012 9:34 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,  
paul reynolds

**From:** Urara Reynolds <uranishi@hotmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/13/2012 8:37 am  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS: 22/2 Murray Street Lane Cove 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.

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Yours sincerely,  
Urara Reynolds

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.

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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	Stephanie Reynoso
Address	18a Rosehill Close
	Casula NSW 2170
Signature	[Signature]
Date	6/12/12



**From:** John Rhoden <jrhoden46@bigpond.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/13/2012 2:58 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.

I was born in NSW, now live in Queensland. I recently visited the Blue Mountains National Parks, which I hadn't been back to for over 30 years - I was devastated to read the pollution Warning signs on all the creeks and waterways. On their watch, people like you have permitted this damage and you are about to do it again. Shame on you and the greedy focus on the mighty dollar. many of you have squandered the assets generated by me, my parents, my grandparents and all Australians. As an ex-serviceman I wonder if any sacrifice was worth it. Most of you are such a disappointing lot.

Yours sincerely,  
John Rhoden

**From:** Denis Rice <tdrice3@southernphone.com.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/17/2012 9:00 am  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS: 64 Cliff Drive, Katoomba NSW 2780

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.

For more than 20 years, I have worked with mining companies as a consulting geochemist. I am all in favour of environmentally-responsible mining projects. I consider coal seam gas mining to be environmentally irresponsible, and therefore it should be banned.

I applaud AGL for their efforts to promote renewable energy, for example their recently-announced solar project near Broken Hill in New South Wales. However I urge AGL to scale down and phase out its mining of coal seam gas, and to source its gas only from natural gas/ conventional gas. There are abundant supplies of this conventional gas in Australia, which, when used responsibly, will last well into the future. It's best to leave coal seam gas in the ground!

Yours sincerely,

Denis Rice

**From:** Kathy Rice <katherinehrice@gmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/17/2012 9:09 pm  
**Subject:** No CSG in farming, urban and water catchments

35 Alexander Avenue, Kiama Downs, NSW 2533

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.

Maintenance of community health and well-being is one of the greatest responsibilities of government. Already accidents and imperfections in coal seam gas mining operations around Australia have given reason for the community to be concerned that their health and well-being and the integrity of the environment are not being suitably respected. It seems to many that export profits have become the paramount consideration. Please do not threaten the health and water supply of Greater Western Sydney with this project.

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

There have not yet been adequate statistics from government or the industry proving that coal seam gas mining is safe and of no consequence to water supply and quality. The community is still waiting for the scientific justification behind the decision to expand this type of mining.

Research from the Queensland and the US indicates that ground water contamination and gas leaks are precipitated by fracking, yet this proposal by AGL does not rule out fracking. The impacts of horizontal drilling have also not been adequately considered in the Environmental Assessment.

AGL does not conduct methane leakage studies to account for methane leakage on their existing coal seam gas wells and have not proposed to do so in this project. Reports from Queensland and overseas illustrate 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.

The integrity of gas wells cannot be guaranteed and research from gas fields in Queensland and the US has shown many fail in their first few year and data from the Schlumberger Oilfield review shows that after 20 years 50% of all wells leak due to casing failure. This leaves the community to deal with the impact of leaking wells on air quality and local water supplies both in the short and long term. This is a real issue because if the smaller companies that have used farm - in arrangements to prospect and establish gas fields are no longer viable at this time, there will be no redress to those communities whose lives are being damaged by the environmental impacts.

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%.

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,  
Kathy Rice

**From:** Ruth Rich <ruth-rich@bigpond.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/13/2012 5:51 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

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.

**From:** Naina Richards <nainadeviness@gmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/13/2012 6:08 am  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

11 Newberry Parade  
Brunswick Heads  
NSW 2483

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

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- 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,  
Naina Richards

**From:** james richardson <mrjames.richardson@gmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/16/2012 8:29 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%.
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Yours sincerely,  
james richardson

**From:** Julie Richardson <julesricardomontez@yahoo.com.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/18/2012 7:07 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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- 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,  
Julie Richardson

**From:** Shelley Richardson <Shelley@shelley-richardson.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/12/2012 7:35 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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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,  
Shelley Richardson

P.S. Receive the full weight of responsibility for the position you take. If the result of it combined or otherwise harms others then receive the judgement of that upon yourself/selves. If it results in death, even one, their blood will be on your head.

Be mindful of that.

Do the RIGHT thing at any cost even if it appears costly. What you reap personally and the citizen of this fine country reaps, depends on it. I hope you have a healthy respect for all and chose wisely.

Thank you.



**From:** benjamin ridding <bride@oneseniors.com.au>  
**To:** plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au  
**Date:** 12/22/2012 7:45 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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Yours sincerely,  
benjamin ridding

**From:** Barry Ridge <ridge.barry@gmail.com>  
**To:** plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au  
**Date:** 12/18/2012 5:22 pm  
**Subject:** Fwd: Camden Gas Project Stage 3 - Northern Expansion  
**Attachments:** CSG letter - Barry.pdf

The Officer in charge  
Mining and Industry Projects

Department of Planning

GPO Box 39

SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Sir/Madam

I forwarded the attached comments by email this morning.

I now provide a signed form of this letter by attachment.

Barry Ridge

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Barry Ridge <ridge.barry@gmail.com>  
Date: Tue, Dec 18, 2012 at 7:38 AM  
Subject: Camden Gas Project Stage 3 - Northern Expansion  
To: plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au

The Officer in Charge  
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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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 (3rd 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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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.

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

Yours sincerely  
Dr Barry Ridge  
8 St James Road,  
Varroville, NSW 2566

This is my electronic signature.

My reportable political donations in the last 2 years is NIL.  
18th December, 2012

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 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

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**The first law of medicine is : TO DO NO HARM. The evidence for safe mining of this type has not been provided. This activity must cease immediately.**

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

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Barry R. Ridge". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dr Barry Ridge

8 St James Road,

Varroville, NSW 2566

My reportable political donations in the last 2 years is NIL.

18th December, 2012

**From:** Barry Ridge <ridge.barry@gmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/18/2012 7:39 am  
**Subject:** Camden Gas Project Stage 3 - Northern Expansion

The Officer in Charge  
Mining and Industry Projects

Department of Planning

GPO Box 39

SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Sir/Madam

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Dr Barry Ridge  
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Varroville, NSW 2566

This is my electronic signature.

My reportable political donations in the last 2 years is NIL.

18th December, 2012

**From:** Chris Ridge <chrisaridge@gmail.com>  
**To:** plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au  
**Date:** 12/18/2012 5:16 pm  
**Subject:** Camden Gas Project Stage 3 - Northern Expansion  
**Attachments:** CSG letter - Chris.pdf

The Officer in Charge  
Mining and Industry Projects

Department of Planning

GPO Box 39  
SYDNEY NSW 2001  
signed letter attached

Dear Sir/Madam

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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.

\*The first law of medicine is : TO DO NO HARM. The evidence for safe mining of this type has not been provided. This activity must cease immediately.\*  
I acknowledge that my name will appear on my submission when publicly exhibited.

Yours sincerely  
Chris Ridge

8 St James Road,  
Varroville, NSW 2566  
My reportable political donations in the last 2 years is NIL.  
18th December, 2012

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.

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

Yours sincerely

Chris Ridge



8 St James Road,

Varroville, NSW 2566

My reportable political donations in the last 2 years is NIL.

18th December, 2012



**From:** "RIDGE, DARREN (DARREN)" <darren.ridge@alcatel-lucent.com>  
**To:** plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au  
**Date:** 12/18/2012 1:21 pm  
**Subject:** Camden Gas Project Stage 3 - Northern Expansion  
**Attachments:** Camden Gas Project Stage 3 - Northern Expansion.pdf

The Officer in Charge  
Mining and Industry Projects  
Department of Planning  
GPO Box 39  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

17th December, 2012

Dear Sir/Madam

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

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

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'D. Ridge', with a stylized, cursive script.

Darren Ridge  
8 St James Road,  
Varroville, NSW 2566

My reportable political donations in the last 2 years is NIL.

**From:** Cas Rifello <rif.raff@bigpond.com>  
**To:** plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au  
**Date:** 12/19/2012 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

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,  
Cas Rifello

**From:** Rob Rimmer <deweeder75@gmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/13/2012 6:07 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

2/10 Third Street Camp Hill, Q. 4152:

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

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Yours sincerely,  
Rob Rimmer

**From:** Nikki Rivers <nikki@supercentral.com.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/17/2012 4:24 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,  
Nikki Rivers

**From:** Mary Rizanovski <MRizanovski@healthylifegroup.com.au>  
**To:** "plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au" <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/14/2012 9:19 am  
**Subject:** Re: Projext application 09\_0048  
**Attachments:** img-Z14080718-0001.pdf

Regards,

Mary Rizanovski  
Accounting Manager

Healthy Life Group Pty Ltd  
316 Horsley Road, Milperra, NSW 2214  
Ph:(02) 9772 7134,  
Fax: (02) 9773 0075  
Email: mrizanovski@healthylifegroup.com.au



**From:** Eliza Robbins <elizarobbins@y7mail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/12/2012 4:39 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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Yours sincerely,  
Eliza Robbins

**From:** Isac Robbins <isac.robbins@y7mail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/12/2012 4:38 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

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

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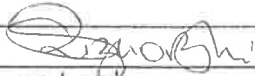
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Yours sincerely

Name	Mary Rizanovski
Address	22 Lansdowne St, Penshurst 2222
Signature	
Date	14/12/12

MSc (Sydney), DipEd (New England), Member of the Royal Australian Chemical Institute

Consulting Geochemist

64 Cliff Drive, Katoomba NSW 2780

Tel.: (02) 4782 6623 or 0459794 785

Email: [tdrice3@southernphone.com.au](mailto:tdrice3@southernphone.com.au)

**From:** Clyde James Roberts <clydej199@bigpond.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/12/2012 7:38 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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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.
- People's homes should not be undermined by coal seam gas drilling without their knowledge or permission.
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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,  
Clyde James Roberts  
Site 65 Homestead Holiday Park  
21-35 Chinderah Bay Dr  
Chinderah NSW 2487  
Phone: (02) 6674 2864

**From:** Eddie Roberts <oldgrowthed@yahoo.com>  
**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

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,  
Eddie Roberts

**From:** Kyle Roberts <kyl roberts357@rocketmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/12/2012 4:47 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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- 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,  
Kyle Roberts



**From:** Alice Robertson <alicerobertson5@gmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/12/2012 9:30 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS: PO Box 1237 Lismore NSW 2480

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 strongly object to AGL's project application 09\_0048 to drill for coal seam gas in Western Sydney.

Have you read the effects of CSG in the US?????

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,  
Alice Robertson

**From:** Christine Robertson <chris.robo@activ8.net.au>  
**To:** plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au  
**Date:** 12/18/2012 11:08 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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Why when we live in a country that has one of the greatest potentials for producing clean energy in the form of solar power are we willing to take the risk of using energy from a source that is potentially lethal both to the population and the environment? Why does the government give in to large business at the expense of the rest of the community? Just be prepared to lose the next election.

Yours sincerely,  
Christine Robertson

**From:** claire robertson <kiitsch@hotmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/14/2012 4:21 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

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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,  
claire robertson

**From:** Hugh Robertson <hmcrobertson@gmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/12/2012 4:00 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

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

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Yours sincerely,  
Hugh Robertson

**From:** Rosalind Robertson <robertson.ros@gmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/17/2012 2:51 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,  
Rosalind Robertson

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## **Daniel Robins, of dec, made the following submission on the project:**

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



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

To whom it concerns. As a teacher in the Campbelltown area I am genuinely concerned for many of my students and their families who live in Ingleburn and other areas that are being earmarked as areas for the AGL Stage 3 Camden Gas Project Northern Expansion.

In my last role as a teacher in Walgett NSW I witnessed first hand the environmental damage caused by coal seam gas drilling on the nearby Pilliga Forest Project (Eastern Star Gas, now Santos) which adversely affected the local creeks and waterways. See article below: <http://www.theaustralian.com.au/national-affairs/coal-seam-gas-pollution-spill-went-unreported/story-fn59niix-1226244002610>

I even obtained scientific water studies done at the time by the Australian National Toxics Network (NTN) led by Dr Marion Llyod-Smith that I attach for you below that discuss the csg related contamination. The levels of methane that spread into the Bibblewindi Creek and throughout the Pilliga Forest has since contaminated 1.2 hectares of bushland and numerous waterways. (See article in the Australian Newspaper above)

At the time many local councils put in place moratoriums on Coal Seam Gas extraction including the Walgett Shire, the Coonamble Shire and many others as they saw the very real threat caused by CSG extraction.

However, this was not just an issue for our community whose rivers were affected. Luckily we were 80 kilometres away from the CSG wells. Some local farmers in the Pilliga were living just kilometres away.

At this time I wrote to the Federal member for Parkes Mark Coulton who explained clearly in a letter that he sent me dated 15 December 2011 (attached below) that quote "Coal seam gas development must not occur close to existing residential areas."

At this same time I also received a letter from Robert Oakeshott dated 15 December 2011 (attached below) detailing his recognition that CSG was a major concern for many Australians. He says: "The concerns of thousands of people proved to be of tremendous assistance in negotiating the right outcome on science-based coal-seam gas assessments for communities throughout Australia."

This science based coal seam gas assessment is something many people including the Campbelltown Council are seeking before any AGL Northern Expansion can go ahead. Campbelltown Council has firmed its opposition to the AGL Northern Expansion,

passing a resolution at last week's council meeting opposing it and calling for the council to be made the determining authority on any coal seam gas applications.

It seems that AGL's Northern Expansion should be investigated by the new Independent Expert Scientific Committee on Coal Seam Gas and Large Coal Mining Development. This committee was established today, 27 November 2012, by federal environment and water minister Tony Burke.

I know this because Minister Tony Burke wrote to me on 23 February 2012 (attached below) also recognising that the community concerns regarding coal seam gas were growing and a more transparent science based assessment was needed.

I will be writing to the federal environment and water minister Tony Burke again today to request that he ask the Stage 3 Camden Gas Project Northern Expansion be stopped and immediately investigated by the Independent Expert Scientific Committee on Coal Seam Gas and Large Coal Mining Development.

Kind Regards

Daniel Robins

**From:** "Paul Robins" <mezpaul@Bigpond.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/13/2012 9:39 pm  
**Subject:** AGL  
**Attachments:** AGL Letter.doc

Dear Sir/Madam,

Find attached my submission regarding the proposed AGL Coal Seam Gas mining in the Macarthur region.

Regards

Paul Robins



**From:** Ed Robinson <alcala@cirruscomms.com.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/17/2012 4:07 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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

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,  
Ed Robinson

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## **Martin Robinson, of Bow Bowing NSW, made the following submission on the project:**

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



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

Project Application Number 09\_0048

I am making this submission to the PAC in order to express my deep concern and objections with the direction that the embryonic CSG industry is taking in this community.

This industry is in a state of development, which AGL cannot deny, as many of the questions that the Community Consultative Committee has put to it have remained unanswered. The amount of "community consultation" by AGL has been abysmal. The advertising of their "Open Days" has been buried many pages deep within the local newspapers, almost it would seem in an effort to remain unnoticed.

I address my concerns within the following areas:

#### **1. Health**

This industry has come under a cloud of concern by many health authorities including Doctors for the Environment. The experience gained in Queensland and in Pennsylvania in the U.S.A. would indicate that there are risks to people's health from methane leakage into the atmosphere and the waterways, with subsequent contamination of ground and surface water.

This is exacerbated by mining for gas within the Sydney Catchment area, which holds implications for the entire population of Sydney. I cannot believe the short sightedness of our state politicians. I can only conclude that there have been deals done for short term gain and the longer term outlook for our community will be left for future generations to worry about fixing. The asbestos industry took 40 years to come to light as a killer industry. How long will it take for the CSG mining industry to be exposed as detrimental to our health?

#### **Environment**

The insanity of mining underneath built up urban areas and dense populations is difficult to understand. I presume that those members of the PAC would not mind gas mining taking place under their homes, as AGL have stated that the horizontal drilling can take place up to 2.7 Km from the point of the well head.. Overseas experience points to a considerable body of evidence indicating the toxicity of this industry. This is why it has been banned in those countries that are more enlightened than we are, such as France and China. The Chinese are not silly. They realise they

have significant problems with pollution and are not willing to start up another industry which will contribute more rogue methane emissions into their country, as well as destroying the lives of those people affected by it. Better to get someone else to destroy their country and environment, while preserving your own. Past history indicates that AGL is incapable of self monitoring. They have not done so in the past in the Camden Gas Project (3 years without monitoring) in breach of its EPL No.12003, for which they have received the great penalty of a warning only. Once again it seems that AGL can thumb their nose at government regulations and get away with it. Why do they get special treatment? It seems they are untouchable.

This proposal for the Northern Expansion is the first proposal to mine under heavily populated areas. The south west of Sydney is known to be an environmental bowl, and as such will become the pollution capital of NSW, with its collection of smog, carbon monoxide and methane emissions. The National Water Commission has stated that there will probably be long term detrimental effects on our water from this industry.

According to AGL figures, the failure rate of wellheads is 6%. They consider this acceptable, whereas any failure rate this high in any other industry would be unacceptable. This rate means that of the 66 wells proposed, over 3 are expected to fail, with resultant health and environmental problems. The chemical plant leakages in Newcastle recently would indicate that accidents do happen, and that self monitoring and reporting does NOT work.

The NSW government will be unable to control this industry, as its past efforts with AGL over the 10 year lifetime of the current Camden Gas Project indicates that it does not have the resources to control the industry, given the many breaches by AGL that have occurred over the last 10 years. Proven by the case of the Sydney TV station coincidentally catching a "controlled" well head blowout at Menangle in May 2011 when well substances were deliberately allowed to drift over one of our water channels and neighbouring houses. How many other breaches like this go unreported to government due to "self monitoring"?

The last 10 years' history shows this industry cannot be controlled to keep the environment or the people safe.

## 2. Economic Impacts

The mining underneath dense populations will create a World War 1 like network of tunnels underneath the South West and Campbelltown/Camden suburbs. This will have a great impact on the property values in this area, as has been proven already in Queensland, where some property owners have found their homes to be unsaleable due to nearby gas well heads. We know nothing of subsidence effects from this industry, but we do know the effects of Long Wall Coal mining in areas such as Appin. A colleague recently built a house in Appin and had to sign a Council waiver that he would not hold Council responsible for any subsidence on his property. Once property prices drop in an area and remain depressed, the area will die as an available area for housing and put further pressure on other areas of Sydney as its population swells due to increased immigration. Sydney has only a finite amount of land and risks causing its own decline when a mining industry takes over the Sydney basin and makes the city an undesirable place to live and for businesses to invest and for tourists to visit. The catalyst for this to happen would be approval being given to AGL's Stage 3 Expansion. This would set a precedent for the rape of the remaining suburbs in the name of the dollar and vested interests.

Approval cannot be given to this project because it is not fully scoped. In 2009 the AGL proposal for a gas processing plant in the Scenic Hills was rejected by the Dept. of Planning on environmental grounds. Currently, AGL has no answer as to how they

propose to pipe the gas from the wellheads in northern parts of the subsurface drilling area to the main plant at Rosalind Park, as the distance is too great to rely on pipe pressure alone and the gas processing plant was to have been their solution to this problem. At the moment, AGL has no solution for transporting the gas to Rosalind Park and has specified no solution in their proposal. When asked, they say the pressure for piping is an unknown and it may be possible. But if it is not possible, what is their alternative? The proposal is not fully specified, and therefore should be rejected.

#### Summary.

Sydney is NOT short of gas. The current gas fields in Moomba S.A. and Bass Strait have, by all expert opinion, sufficient gas supply to not only supply Australia's gas needs for over 100 years but also supply a healthy export industry as well.

The only reason AGL is pushing this proposal is because its current gas supply contract with its suppliers is coming due for renewal in the next couple of years, and instead of negotiating new contracts, at no doubt higher supply prices, it is trying to self supply, thereby reducing its costs, raising its bottom line profit and increasing its share price, thus keeping the shareholders happy and staving off any takeover attempts by other interests.

Shoring up the share price of private companies is not in the brief of any government. Its primary responsibility is the welfare of the people.

I do not know what sort of promises that AGL has made to the NSW government or what financial benefits the government will get for this that we are not being told about, but the appalling sight of the Minister for Planning, Brad Hazzard, making jokes on the 7 Network TV news about the peoples' concerns, gives me no faith in this government's objectivity and makes me question its bias. I do know that by approving this expansion underneath the homes of Campbelltown and the Scenic Hills, will open up the eventual decline of the city of Sydney as the number one destination for housing, business investment and tourism. We will become just another dirty industrial city like Detroit in the U.S.

The mining for CSG should be BANNED in all urban areas including regional towns and cities.

Governments are elected to look after the interests of the people. At the moment, the interests of the people are being ridden over roughshod by the State Government by providing no avenue of appeal to the Land and Environment Court. Democracy is being slowly destroyed. The State Government and the PAC have made themselves Judge, Jury and I fear, Executioner.

This proposal is counter to the interests of the people and the interests of this state and should be rejected by the PAC. To do otherwise would be a betrayal of the people.

**From:** Pia Robinson <pia.r@bigpond.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/17/2012 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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Yours sincerely,  
Pia Robinson

**From:** joy robson <joy07@live.com.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/14/2012 11:58 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS: 101 southee road Richmond 2753

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

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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.
- 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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- 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,  
joy robson

**From:** j roff <jroff10@eq.edu.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/13/2012 12:01 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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j roff

**From:** Kathleen Roitman <k.roitman@optusnet.com.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/17/2012 7:17 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS: 25 The Glen Rd., Bardwell Valley, 2207

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

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Yours sincerely,  
Kathleen Roitman



**From:** Wendy Rolls <wendyrolls@ozemail.com.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/12/2012 9:54 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

3/43 Pacific Tce  
East Ballina NSW 2478

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

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Yours sincerely,  
Wendy Rolls

**Clay Preshaw - CSG industry ---- unbridled growth without proper environmental assessment**

---

**From:** Graeme Romans <gromans@bigpond.net.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/4/2012 7:45 AM  
**Subject:** CSG industry ---- unbridled growth without proper environmental assessment

---

Dear Sir/ Madam

I would like to express my concern at the growth of the Coal Seam Gas industry now into Cambelltown and its country environs on the outskirts of Sydney.

My objections relate to the unseemly haste with which an a process which is essentially untried is being unleashed on the community without adequate knowledge of possible health consequences

This cannot be called planning , using outdated instruments designed for mining to be applied to semi rural and even suburban communities without adequate assessment on the effects on the environment

This is NOT democratic process and I oppose it

Yours Faithfully

Dr Graeme Romans

**From:** S Romei <ssromei@yahoo.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/17/2012 4:24 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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Yours sincerely,  
S Romei

**From:** JENNY ROOKE <ROOKEJENNY42@GMAIL.COM>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/13/2012 5:12 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

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JENNY ROOKE

**From:** matt rooke <mavoui@optusnet.com.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/17/2012 4:28 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

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Yours sincerely,  
matt rooke

24 Albillo Place  
Eschol Park NSW 2558

July 2011

The Honorable Bradley Hazzard  
Minister for Planning  
Level 33 Governor Macquarie Tower  
1 Farrer Place  
Sydney NSW 2000

Dear Mr. Hazzard,

We would like to take this opportunity to introduce ourselves as concerned members of the public.

We are residents of Eschol Park NSW in the Campbelltown LEP and have lived here for over twenty six (26) years

The June 2011 Newsletter received in the mail from Chris Patterson MP reiterates the NSW Liberal & Nationals Government's election promise:-

- Scrapping Part 3A of the Environment Planning and Assessment Act and returning planning decisions to local communities;
- Allowing People's Petitions to be debated in Parliament;

So we are writing to urge your support for a review into the Camden Gas Project – Northern Expansion – Part 3A Environmental Assessment October 2010.

Project Application: MP 09\_0048  
Applicant Name: AGL Gas Production (Camden) Pty  
Proposed Project: Camden Gas Project Northern Expansion

Proponent Application signed by David Kelly – Upstream Gas

Part 3A Major Project signed off in October 2010 by Mr. Tony Kelly MLC

Have not been able to obtain information if the two Mr. Kelly's are related or not but one does wonder!

Please note that the original Project that was started in 2002 initially with 28 Gas Wells and as of October 2010 has expanded to 123 Gas Wells.

As of Friday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2011, we had not heard anything about Coal Seam Gas mining or "fracking".

We had no prior knowledge that AGL were proposing to expand the Camden Gas Project into our residential area.

We were only made aware of it by another resident that there was a Public Forum the following day at St Andrews Community Centre.

The community at large has been kept in dark by the Councils and AGL.

At the Forum we were informed that AGL was planning to put twelve (12) well sites with six (6) well heads per site = seventy two (72) wells in the scenic hills surrounding, Varroville, Raby, Eschol Park, Kearns, Blairmount and Currans Hills.

The Subsurface and Surface Project Areas are situated within the Camden and Campbell town LGAs, the total Project Area covers 14,380 ha.

AGL stated that they engaged in discussions with landowners potentially affected by the proposed works.

AGL have been misleading in their Environmental Assessment as this is not correct and have attached copies of letters from eight (8) landowners stating that no communication has been received from AGL either written or verbal.

After doing some research we were horrified, trying to comprehend the vague and non-specific language in the Part 3A Environmental Assessment for Stage 3 it was very stressful.

Reading over and over duplications of the 300 pages of impact assessments that AGL have had paid consultants throughout their nine years of the Camden Gas Project all which fail to recognise all of the impacts that this project brings with it and what it will leave.

It seems that everyone is taking the word of the consultants that AGL have paid and this must be considered a conflict of interest.

The consultants are happy – indeed, some consultants are effectively captive to companies to the extent that they rely on repeat business such as URS Australia/AECOM/HLA ENSR – the consultants used by AGL

As AGL Gas Productions/Sydney Gas Projects/AGLUI/Up Steam Gas all really the same entity have been coal seam gas extracting for more than ten (9) years and as from their own admission have not been carrying out hydrology or hydrogeology studies and have carried out no groundwater monitoring for the Camden Gas Project.

Government oversight to recognise the failings of the tenement holder to identify and monitor the groundwater for past nine (9) years is incomprehensible.

It indicates that a failure of self monitoring as a means of regulation and requires urgent attention.

How is it possible that a Government will let a large corporation function as judge, jury and executioner?

In NSW we have been completely removed from the decision making process by approving most of the gas mining projects under the Part 3A Legislation. Local residents who live in a target area of the future gas lands have only very little say in the Coal Seam Gas exploration process and none at all once the production license is granted.

Typically the consultation with the local residents means that the Coal Seam Gas company public relations department arranges a project exhibition. The project goes ahead regardless of what local people say project is never revealed or discussed in advance and all technical information is kept proprietary and secret.

On 10 October 2005, The Minister advised that a Concept Plan must be submitted for the Remainder of the development within Stage 2 and for future development of Stages 3, 4 and 5, prior to (or concurrently with) seeking Project approval for any part of the development, pursuant to Part 3A of the EP&A Act.

The concept plan would provide a strategic framework for future gas development and provide certainty to landowners and the community.

AGL have now decided that this is not relevant and have decided to change the rules as per the following in their Environmental Assessment October 2010:-

### **5.2.3 Environmental Planning Instruments**

*As the Northern Expansion is not the subject of a **Concept Plan**, if the Project were to be prohibited under a local environmental plan (LEP) and there were no State environmental planning policies that overrode such prohibition, the Project would be prohibited. A discussion of the Project's permissibility with the relevant LEP's has been provided in this EA (refer **Section 5.3**) and has determined that the Project is not prohibited.*

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AGL have too much power in deciding what is happening in our communities under the pretence of Part 3A of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 Act and state in their submission:-

**Project Need** - *AGL has identified a significant gas resource in the Sydney Basin which is held within the coal seams of the Illawarra Coal Measures. The technology required to extract and produce the coal seam gas has been in operation overseas (particularly the USA) for many years but until now has had limited application in Australia.*

*The primary purpose of the Project is to increase gas production from the CGP to meet projected future demand which is expected to increase significantly. The Project would also provide for an indigenous gas supply for the NSW market, reducing the need for transportation of gas from interstate to meet demand and encouraging the use of a cleaner energy source than that provided by coal.*

*The Eastern Gas Pipeline and Distribution Network also dissects the Subsurface and Surface Project Area and are essential for the sale and delivery of natural gas. Gas gathering lines*



*installed as part of the Northern Expansion would connect directly into the existing infrastructure of Camden Gas Project, which connects to the Distribution Network.*

AGL fail to state that Coal Seam Gas is banned by the province of Quebec, the states of New York and New Jersey, the nation of France and England as of June 2011.

Coal Seam Gas is an unconventional gas, while conventional gas offers a small greenhouse gas benefit to coal fired power, unconventional gas sources such as coal seam gas are different.

AGL's Primary Purpose statement is misleading as once all of the gas lines are joined then gas will be transported through these lines. It has nothing to do with reducing gas imports from other states it is just so AGL can have the infrastructure to supply more gas and make more money have the monopoly with regards to gas supply.

***AGL's Justification*** - *The proposal has been subject to environmental assessment in accordance with Part 3A of the EP&A Act and requirements issued by the Director General. The EA undertaken concludes that whilst the Project would have some residual impacts, the mitigation measures identified would effectively reduce these to an acceptable level of environmental risk and enable the Project to operate without detriment to the existing or future land uses. The proposal stands to provide significant public benefit in terms of the provision of a vital source of energy to meet projected future demand as well as allowing for the future urban (residential, commercial and industrial) development of the area. These benefits are considered to outweigh any residual environmental impacts identified in the EA.*

*Production of Coal Seam Gas has increased significantly in recent years and is only produced in Queensland and NSW. Coal Seam Gas currently only contributes 7% of total natural gas supplies in Australia. Coal Seam Gas is found closer to the surface and under lower pressure, making it easier to access and reduce environmental/geological disturbance. Coal Seam Gas usually has higher concentration of methane, lower levels of impurities and is closer to sales markets resulting in lower environmental and financial costs.*

All major decisions concerning Coal Seam Gas exploration, development and production are made between the government and industry experts behind closed doors. Yet there are in fact four groups of stakeholders in any CSG project and they all need to play part. These are: Company Representatives, Politicians, Public Servants and Community Consultative Committees (that no one knows).

AGL admit that the lifecycle for these wells are about fifteen (15) years –once the gas is depleted then the wells are back filled.

How is this renewable energy?

AGL's have stated that they will drill 700 metres vertically into the Earth's surface and then can drill up to 2.5 kilometres horizontally.

What happens to the gas that is not captured by AGL? It can only either goes up into the Earth's surface or into the water aquifers – the enormity of the destruction is not known and there is no clear way idea on how to rectify the damage.

Methane gas contributes significantly to the greenhouse gas problem. Methane is a relatively potent greenhouse gas and compared to carbon it has a high global warming potential.

The current 200 meter buffer distance of CSG installations from principal residences, stipulated in Petroleum (Onshore) Act 1991, should be revised significantly upwards. The present legislation does not even say if this distance is measured from the well head or from the extraction boundary. This statutory buffer is completely meaningless when the fracking zone of a vertical gas well extends as far as 400m or as far as several kilometres for horizontal wells.

There should not be any drilling what-so-ever under residential properties or under rivers and streams.

**AGL's Cumulative Impacts** - *The cumulative impacts of the proposal have been considered with respect to impacts associated with the proposed development, as well as with impacts associated with other projects in the region. It is concluded that due to the temporary nature of the proposed activities there would be **no significant net residual impacts** associated with the proposed development's interaction with other known projects in the area. The potential impacts for each of the environmental factors were also considered to be **minimal** provided the prescribed mitigation measures and safeguards are implemented.*

**AGL's Conclusion** - *Project Approval is sought for the Northern Expansion of the CGP, which involves the construction and operation of gas wells and associated infrastructure such as gas gathering lines and access roads and subsurface drilling of lateral well paths. The Project satisfies the requirements of a Major Development under SEPP 2005 and has therefore been deemed by the Minister to be a project to which Part 3A of the EP&A Act applies.*

Gas companies should be made ultimately responsible for any financial losses in property values in the area they operate. This should include the situations when a particular landholder may not be able to sell their property because nobody is interested to move into an existing or future gas field. Potential erosion of the property values may be the most troublesome problem for the CSG industry yet because real estate market forces are beyond anyone's control.

Quoting from AGL's Environmental Assessment

Environmental Assessment - Northern Expansion of the Camden Gas Project AECOM S60666\_EA\_FNL\_100830 ES9

**Air Quality** - *AGL undertakes not to vent gas during routine construction and production operations (where venting is defined as an intentional, sustained and controlled release of uncombusted gas).*

*However, AGL cannot make such an undertaking in non-routine situations for safety reasons, such as during emergency situations, maintenance, process upsets and well commissioning to steady state flow. The above non-routine situations are not considered to be venting as they relate to short term, intermittent and infrequent events.*

**Surface Water** - *It is not anticipated that the Project would have a significant impact on surface water quality and surface water drainage provided that appropriate mitigation measures are implemented.*

**Ecology** - *It is anticipated that the ecological impacts related to the project components would be minimal as final well surface locations would be selected to avoid areas of significant vegetation. Further details of the flora and fauna assessments undertaken and the mitigation measures proposed are provided in **Chapter 11** of the EA.*

**Groundwater** - The existing groundwater regime has been identified. Potential impacts to the groundwater regime include increased permeability and depressurisation within the coal measures aquifer following fracking and groundwater extraction. However, given the deep aquifer is not used for any beneficial use in the vicinity of the Subsurface or Surface Project Areas, there is no measurable impact.

The construction and operation of the CSM facility and production wells is not expected to result in adverse impacts to the groundwater regime.

This risk associated with gas wells and the risks of leaking gas from groundwater sources via bores and creeks must be considered when assessing its potential as an alternative to coal for lowering carbon emissions and meeting targets.

**Noise** - It was determined that operational noise emission levels from the 12 proposed well locations are predicted to meet the relevant Project specific noise goals at all existing residential dwellings.

It is anticipated that with recommended noise mitigation measures in place for each well site that operations would not be unduly restricted as a result of noise emission levels and that the relevant construction noise goals can be achieved at all residential and other noise-sensitive locations.

There may be exceedances of the construction noise criteria during the excavation and earth-moving activities associated with road construction or installation of the gas gathering system or where well fracking is required. It is understood that these activities would only be conducted during the daytime period and would be relatively short in duration.

The worst-case scenario assessed for noise impacts is drilling of up to six Surfaces to Inseam (SIS) wells at a single surface location and the fracture stimulation of wells.

An SIS well typically involves continuous 24-hour drilling over a period of approximately 25 days per well x this by 6 per well site = 150 days per well site continuous drilling.

Fracture stimulation or fracking involves the injection of slurry of sand and water at high pressure into the coal seam to create a conductive pathway for the gas to flow into the well. The fracking process typically takes up to one day for each well.

As the overall construction process may take more than six months for up to six SIS wells to be drilled at the one surface location, the assessment has been conducted on the basis of more than six months and up to 12 months. Report No 06151 Page 3

**Visual-** The visual assessment concludes that the visual impacts of the Project are minimal provided the recommended mitigation measures are implemented.

**Geology and Soil-** The soils and geology of the Subsurface and Surface Project Area are well known due to the existing CGP operations. The potential for impacts resulting from the Northern Expansion include the disturbance of soil and minor alterations to landform due to trenching, drilling and excavation for the construction of the CNGP and supply pipeline, well surface locations, gas and water gathering systems, and access roads. However, these impacts are expected to be minor and are anticipated to have a negligible effect on the area. Erosion and sedimentation controls would be implemented to minimise potential impacts to the locality with disturbed areas rehabilitated as soon as practical after works.

The potential for subsidence to occur at the surface has been assessed in **Appendix K** and is considered to be negligible unless:

- Large voids are created in the strata by the mining or extractive activity, leading to subsequent collapse, consolidation and subsidence of the overlying strata.
- Large voids are created in the strata by the mining or extractive activity, leading to subsequent failure of remnant pillars and subsidence of the overlying strata.

- Unconsolidated beds of strata are present, which can subsequently be consolidated by the weight of the overburden, following the removal of interstitial fluids.

The proposed extraction of gas would not create large voids in the strata, nor leave remnant pillars. The strata within the coal measures are not unconsolidated and in fact are hard and well consolidated rocks. The conditions for significant subsidence to occur are not therefore present and it is concluded that the potential for subsidence to occur as gas is extracted is considered to be negligible.

**Traffic-** The proposed works is likely to result in a minor increase in traffic volumes for short periods of time, namely during construction. Given the generally minor and temporary nature of these impacts, the proposed development is considered to be acceptable in terms of traffic and transport. Mitigation practices have been identified and include such measures as updating the existing Traffic Management Sub Plan (TMSP).

**Social and Economic** - The social impacts of the Project are considered to be acceptable, particularly when considered in the context of the significant economic benefits of the Project to the local area and the State.

**Waste** - The implementation of environmental safeguards would minimise impacts associated with the generation and management of waste resulting from the Project, therefore residual impacts are considered to be temporary and manageable.

**AGL also quote the following:-**

According to Gray, 1986, and noted that Hargraves, 1963, had conducted a series of tests It is possible therefore that there could be some shrinkage of the coal seam due to the extraction of the methane, but at such low strain values any shrinkage would be a matter of a few millimetres. Any subsidence that might occur at the surface due to shrinkage of the coal seam would, therefore, be negligible.

As is it the locals that have to put up with the downsides such fracturing of the land by access roads and pipelines, traffic congestion on rural roads, noise and unresolved problems with disposal of the CSG waste water and toxic chemicals. There is also a danger of a serious health risk from the escaped hydrocarbons, diesel exhaust fumes and from photochemical ozone in the air. When all this is considered, it is crystal clear that the local residents have most to lose from the current out-of-control CSG industry.

They spend a lot of money to publicise how environmentally responsible their gas mining operations are. If they are so sure about their facts, they should welcome the opportunity to publish all relevant data and account for all the water and for all toxic chemicals in a transparent manner. Not relying on reports from 25 and 48 years respectively. They shouldn't mind lodging environmental bonds big enough to cover all potential damage to the land, water, air and communities that they operations may cause.

AGL state in every one of their Environment Assessment submitted to NSW Planning that a referral under the Commonwealth EPBC Act is unnecessary as the development has no potential to impact on any of the eight Matters of National Environmental Significance.

(AGL Energy Limited: Review of Environmental Factors – Surface Exploration Camden North, March 2010 - **BIO S I S R E S E A R C H** 22)

### **Commonwealth Legislation**

The Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) requires the approval of the Commonwealth Minister for the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts for actions that may have a significant impact on matters of National Environmental Significance (NES). Approval from the Commonwealth is in addition to approvals under NSW legislation. The proposed Northern Expansion would not have a significant impact on matters of NES. A referral to the Minister for the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts is not required.

*S60666\_EA\_FNL\_100830 AECOM Environmental Assessment - Northern Expansion of the Camden Gas Project - AECOM*

#### *5.1 Commonwealth Matters*

##### *5.1.1 Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act 1999*

##### *5.1.2 Referral*

**We fail to agree with statement and with all due respect would like a referral to the Minister for Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities The Hon Tony Burke MP and the Parliamentary Secretary for Sustainability and Urban Water Senator the Hon Don Farrell**

Under the EPBC Act, a person who wishes to carry out a "controlled action" (i.e. an action which is "controlled" by the EPBC Act) must first obtain an approval from the Environment Minister. The Environment Minister may also decide that an approval is not needed for a particular action.<sup>4</sup>

**It is an offence to carry out a controlled action without approval**

**is an action which is likely to have a significant impact on**

includes a project, a development, an undertaking, an activity or series of activities, or an alteration of any one of these things.

Examples of actions might include:

- Construction, alteration and demolition of buildings and infrastructure
- Mineral and petroleum resource exploration and extraction
- Industrial processes
- Storage or transport of hazardous materials
- Extraction and diversion of water
- Vegetation clearance.

We believe that the following matters of national environmental significance are reasons for Commonwealth

1. Nationally listed threatened species and ecological communities;

In the areas of Varroville and Raby the following are listed on the EPBC Act Protected Matters Report

2 Threatened Ecological Communities

*Cumberland Plain Shale Woodlands and Shale-Gravel Transition Forests critically endangered*

23 Threatened Species

	Critically Endangered	Endangered	Vulnerable
Birds		2	1
Fish Frogs			5
Mammals		1	5
Plants	1	2	4
Reptiles			1

In the areas of Kearns, Eschol Park and Eaglevale the following are listed on the EPBC Act Protected Matters Report

1 Threatened Ecological Communities

*Cumberland Plain Shale Woodlands and Shale-Gravel Transition Forest is critically endangered*

18 Threatened Species

	Critically Endangered	Endangered	Vulnerable
Birds		2	1
Fish Frogs		1	4
Mammals		1	5
Plants		1	2
Reptiles			1

2. Listed migratory bird species;

In the areas of Varroville and Raby the following are listed on the EPBC Act Protected Matters Report

14 Migratory Species

In the areas of Kearns, Eschol Park and Eaglevale the following are listed on the EPBC Act Protected Matters Report

14 Migratory Species



## Premier of New South Wales

4 August 2011

Mr C & Mrs T Rorie  
24 Albillo Place  
ESCHOL PARK NSW 2558

Dear Mr & Mrs Rorie

Thank you for your email of 1 August, 2011.

I have read your letter with interest and note your concerns in relation to the Camden Gas Project.

I understand your concerns and appreciated the reasons that have prompted you to write to me.

I note you have also forwarded correspondence to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure, the Hon Brad Hazzard MP. You may be sure that the concerns raised will be carefully considered by my colleague.

Thank you for taking the time to write to me.

Yours sincerely

**Barry O'Farrell MP**  
Premier



Mr Craig and Tracey Rorie  
24 Albillo Place  
ESCHOL PARK NSW 2558

11/15188

Dear Mr and Ms Rorie

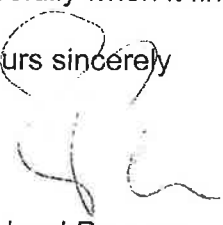
I refer to your letter to the Hon Brad Hazzard MP, Minister for Planning and Infrastructure, concerning the proposed expansion of the Camden Gas Project. The Minister has asked me to thank you for bringing these concerns to his attention, and to reply on his behalf.

The Department exhibited the environmental assessment for the proposed expansion of the Camden Gas Project between 26 October 2010 and 7 December 2010, and received 22 submissions. Many of the submissions raised similar concerns to the ones you have raised in your letter, and in particular the proposed use of hydraulic fracturing.

The Department is now waiting for AGL to provide a formal response to the issues raised in these submissions. Once this response is received, the Department will make it publicly available on its website and finalise its assessment of the merits of the project.

I can assure you that the Department will consider the issues raised in your letter carefully when it finalises its assessment.

Yours sincerely

  
8/9/11  
Richard Pearson  
**Deputy Director General**  
**Development Assessment and Systems Performance**





**The Hon Chris Hartcher**  
**Minister for Resources and Energy**  
**Special Minister of State**  
**Minister for the Central Coast**

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**MEDIA RELEASE**

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Thursday 21 July 2011

**NSW GOVT HAS LISTENED AND ACTED:  
TOUGH NEW CONDITIONS FOR COAL & COAL SEAM GAS**

The NSW Government is introducing tough new rules for coal and coal seam gas exploration and mining which will see a ban on the use of toxic chemicals, greater public consultation, stronger environmental requirements and an extension of the moratorium on 'fracking' until the end of the year, Minister for Resources and Energy Chris Hartcher announced today.

Mr Hartcher said the 60-day moratorium period, which ends on Saturday, has allowed for the development of new provisions which will apply to all new coal and coal seam gas licence applications following consultation with stakeholders.


"During our consultation period, the community expressed a number of concerns and we've listened. Now we're acting by introducing these tougher conditions on coal and coal seam gas mining."

In future, all new coal and coal seam gas exploration and mining licence applications will be subject to new rules:

- A ban on the use of BTEX chemicals (benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene and xylenes) as additives during coal seam gas drilling. The Government's Stakeholder Reference Group is reviewing this process;
- An extended moratorium until 31 December 2011 on the use of hydraulic fracturing or 'fracking' during coal seam gas drilling;
- A regulation that requires extraction of more than 3 megalitres per year from groundwater sources to hold a water access licence;
- A ban on the use of evaporation ponds relating to coal seam gas; and
- New public consultation guidelines to increase transparency and accountability to be finalised in consultation with the Government's Stakeholder Reference Group.

"We understand there needs to be a balance between agricultural land and mining and we're determined to get that balance right," Mr Hartcher said.


"That is why we will require all new applications for mining or petroleum projects which have the potential to affect agricultural resources or industries to submit an Agriculture Impact Statement.

 "It is also why we are identifying strategic agricultural lands and through the Strategic Regional Land Use policy process, ensuring that provisions are included to maintain the significant value of these lands."


Mr Hartcher said the consultative process allowed communities to express a number of concerns about exploration and mining for coal and coal seam gas.

"Concerns were raised about certain practices which appear to be commonplace overseas and in other states.

"Though many of these practices are not widely used in NSW, our Government has moved quickly to ensure they do not become standard practice for industry in NSW.

 "Communities can be assured they've got a receptive ear in the NSW Government," Mr Hartcher said.

The NSW Government is currently developing a new online resource to provide details of licence approval and conditions documents.

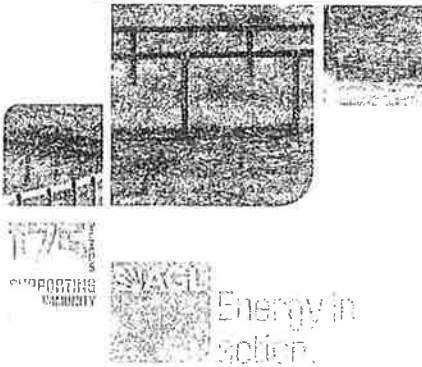
 "These communities cannot be expected to come to an informed conclusion about exploration and mining activities unless they have access to accurate scientific facts and information.

"The level of public access we will be providing is unprecedented. It's only fair that communities have access to as much information surrounding the approvals and conditions process as possible," Mr Hartcher said.

Stricter protocols for the Review of Environmental Factors (REF) process are also being developed.

The new conditions will be applied to all coal and coal seam gas applications referred to the Division of Resources and Energy. Any obligations applicants have under new and existing planning laws where their project is also subject to State Development assessment by the Department of Planning will remain in place.

ENDS



## Camden Gas Project Northern Expansion Response to submissions and Amended Development Application

Dear Neighbour,

As you may be aware, AGL has progressed its application to the Department of Planning & Infrastructure, for the Northern Expansion of the Camden Gas Project.

The 'Response to Submissions and Amended Development Application' is on public exhibition from 6 November 2012 to 18 December 2012 and the community has the opportunity to make a written submission to the Department of Planning & Infrastructure.

The Response to Submissions is available for viewing at the following locations:

- › Online at:  
[majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au/index.pl?action=view\\_job&job\\_id=2921](http://majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au/index.pl?action=view_job&job_id=2921)
- › [agl.com.au/camden](http://agl.com.au/camden)
- › Department of Planning and Infrastructure, Information Centre, 23-33 Bridge Street, Sydney
- › Camden Council Offices, 37 John Street, Camden
- › Campbelltown City Council Offices, Civic Centre, Queen Street, Campbelltown
- › Nature Conservation Council, Level 2, 5 Wilson Street, Newtown

To make a submission mark it with "Attention: Clay Preshaw" and:

- › Fax to: (02) 9228 6455; or
- › Post to: Major Projects Assessment, Department of Planning & Infrastructure, GPO Box 39, SYDNEY NSW 2001; or
- › Email to: [plan\\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au); or
- › Submit via the Department's website [majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au/index.pl?action=view\\_job&job\\_id=2921](http://majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au/index.pl?action=view_job&job_id=2921)

# Camden Gas Project –

## Northern Expansion Information Sessions.

Response to submissions and Amended Development Application.

AGL invites you to attend an information session which will provide an opportunity to discuss the Northern Expansion with the project team.

**Date:** Tuesday, 27 November 2012  
**Location:** Camden Civic Centre, Oxley Street, Camden  
**Time:** Drop in any time from 6pm – 8pm  
**RSVP:** 26 November 2012

**Date:** Wednesday, 28 November 2012  
**Location:** Camden Civic Centre, Oxley Street, Camden  
**Time:** Drop in any time from 10am – 12:30pm  
**RSVP:** 26 November 2012

**Date:** Saturday, 1 December 2012  
**Location:** Campbelltown RSL, Cnr Carberry Lane & Cordeaux Street, Campbelltown  
**Time:** Drop in any time from 9:30am – 12pm  
**RSVP:** 29 November 2012

Refreshments will be provided.

Please RSVP to Jenny O'Brien, [jenny.obrien@agl.com.au](mailto:jenny.obrien@agl.com.au) or (02) 9921 2154.



For further information about the project, visit  
[agl.com.au/camden](http://agl.com.au/camden) or contact:

Alexandra Frolich  
(02) 8934 0273  
[Alexandra.Frolich@agcom.com](mailto:Alexandra.Frolich@agcom.com)

**From:** Bernard Rose <bro88365@bigpond.net.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/12/2012 9:50 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS: 339 Rosehill Road Blakebrook N.S.W. 2480

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. Who is going to be held responsible for any damage done to these properties and our water supply. Are you going to be held accountable.

Fracking must be stopped until full evaluation is completed.

Yours sincerely,

Bernard Rose

**From:** Nick Rose <nick.rose@australianfoodsovereigntyalliance.org>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/12/2012 7:24 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS: 160 Lyons Rd, Sawtell, 2452

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,  
Nick Rose

**From:** "Brian Rosella" <b\_rosella@optusnet.com.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/17/2012 5:15 pm  
**Subject:** Objection to CSG exploration and mining in Campbelltown and surrounding regions

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 (3rd 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

Mr Brian Rosella

9 Jacaranda Avenue

Bradbury, NSW 2560



**From:** Tully Rosen <tullyr@gmail.com>  
**To:** plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au  
**Date:** 12/18/2012 12:22 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

Dear NSW Planning Department

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

It is unacceptable for the NSW Government to allow Coal Seam Gas activities anywhere near the Sydney metropolitan area.

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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- 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,  
Tully Rosen

**From:** elaine Ross <koolone@hotmail.net.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/12/2012 6:34 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

10 Stamp Street  
Deception Bay Q 4508

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,  
Elaine Ross

**From:** Lillian Rothery <lrothery@hotmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/12/2012 4:52 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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Yours sincerely,  
Lillian Rothery

**From:** Clare Rourke <clareandjimrourke@gmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/12/2012 8:57 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,  
Clare Rourke

**From:** Lyn Rowley <therrowleys@inet.net.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/13/2012 2:11 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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Yours sincerely,  
Lyn Rowley

**From:** Susan Royal <susanroyal@gmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/17/2012 7:27 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS: 538 Zara Road, Limpinwood, nsw 2484

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

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**From:** Vivien Royston <mandalaicq@gmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/13/2012 3:27 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS: New Brighton

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

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Yours sincerely,  
Vivien Royston

**From:** Wendy Royston <wsroyston@gmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/17/2012 6:15 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

64 Fingal St  
Brunswick Heads  
NSW 2480

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

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Yours sincerely,  
Wendy Royston



**From:** Emanuel Ruggeri <artxploiters@bigpond.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/17/2012 4:36 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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Yours sincerely,  
Emanuel Ruggeri

**From:** Rebecca rushbrook <rebeccarushbrook@hotmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/17/2012 6:41 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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Yours sincerely,  
Rebecca rushbrook

**From:** ann rushton <annrushton@live.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/12/2012 11:09 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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Yours sincerely,  
ann rushton

**From:** bart rushton <bfc\_aust@yahoo.com.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/13/2012 7:49 am  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

19 quarterdeck court  
Buderim, QLD 4556:

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

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bart rushton

**From:** <lrussell@ups.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 11/22/2012 1:12 pm  
**Subject:** RE: Project application (09-0048)

I am writing to express my objection to the proposed Camden gas project expansion.  
All studies in US have proven this process to be unsafe to both humans & animals.  
The health of current & future generations will be compromised.  
An "incident" has already occurred at the mine at menangle in may 2011 spewing gas & chemicals  
200 m from homes and AGL has proposed another 66 wells in the area.  
No other state has these wells in a residential area. Why has it suddenly been deemed ok for the  
Campbelltown residential area including new housing estates?  
Who will buy a home in the area now.? All real estate values in the area will plummet.  
Please do not allow this to go ahead - not just for the residents of the area but for everyone in  
Australia .If this is allowed to go ahead nothing will stop AGL from expanding across Australia.

Regards  
Leanne Russell  
Belair St  
Bow Bowing 2566

**From:** Sharna Russell <Sharna.russell@gmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/18/2012 7:58 am  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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Yours sincerely,  
Sharna Russell

**From:** Susie Russell <susierussell2k8@gmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/12/2012 10:28 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

330 Glenwarrin Rd  
Elands, 2429

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

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Yours sincerely,  
Susie Russell

**From:** Blaire Ryan <Needtheonesyoulove@gmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/17/2012 10:44 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

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Yours sincerely,  
Blair Ryan



**From:** Colin Ryan <chryan55@bigpond.net.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/12/2012 9:11 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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Colin Ryan

**From:** Julie Ryan <j.r.ryano@gmail.com>  
**To:** plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au  
**Date:** 12/18/2012 3:30 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

MY ADDRESS:

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Julie Ryan

**From:** Laura Ryan <laura.v.ryan@gmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 12/12/2012 8:05 pm  
**Subject:** Don't Sacrifice Greater Western Sydney to Coal Seam Gas

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