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PWI:lt/3310

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

Email: plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Director of Mining and Industry Projects NSW

**Submission Opposing AGL Coal Seam Gas (AGL-CSG)
Camden Gas Project – Northern Expansion (Stage 3)
Project Application No 09_0048**

I write to support the submission of the Discalced Carmelite Nuns of St Andrews Road, Varroville. Their comprehensive submission refers to the noise that would adversely affect their contemplative monastery, as well as the Serbian Orthodox property, the Mount Carmel Retreat Centre, the Parish of Mount Carmel, Mount Carmel High School, and residents of Varroville and surrounding districts.

The economic impact of noise and disruption will continue, initially for nine months and then continuing for up to 15 years, on the Retreat House and on the Nuns' Monastery which exist for the ambience of beauty and silence necessary for their particular ministry. The Retreat House particularly relies on goodwill, long-established relationships and word-of-mouth recommendations. This proposal could devastate the financial viability of the Retreat House which has been providing residential retreats for 40 years for up to 40 people at a time.

St Gregory's College, a boarding and day school whose students are on site for four terms a year, as well as residents in many streets bordering the surface project area, could be adversely affected by noise. A number of our Catholic schools, as well as public and independent schools, are located in the sub surface project area for CGP Stage 3.

The possibility that the needs of local people and the public's concerns about health, air quality and ground water, threats to the natural environment, unpredictable noise disturbances and perceived flawed community consultation, may be disregarded, is difficult to comprehend.

I urge you to abandon the entire AGL-CSG Camden Expansion Proposal for the reasons fully outlined in the Discalced Carmelite Nuns' submission.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Peter Ingham". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. A small cross symbol is written to the left of the first letter of the first name.

Most Rev Peter Ingham DD
BISHOP OF WOLLONGONG