

GAS WATCH 17.

On 22nd May, 2007, Sydney Gas advised neighbours of the Jessop property that on 30th May it proposes to commence drilling through the water table which flows into the Wollombi Brook.

In taking this step Sydney Gas has ignored:

- The enormous community opposition to its project. Whatever happened to the words of the last CEO and also the Deputy Director General of Mineral Resources – “without community support there is no project.”;
- The risk of pollution or loss of the water table and as a possible consequence, the draining or pollution of the Wollombi Brook;
- The neighbouring properties. The drilling is being undertaken within metres of the boundaries of two neighbouring properties;
- The requirement that it gives notice to neighbours of the commencement of any work. Fencing and mud pond digging has taken place without any notice being given. How can you trust a company which is breaching its obligations right at the commencement;
- The community by refusing to have a public meeting;
- The conflict between existing land use and a gas field;
- The fact that its Review of Environmental Factors is flawed;
- The cumulative impact on the area that a gas field will have. It has neglected in its Review of Environmental Factors to look at the mining industry, the army and the impacts;

The Group is still awaiting contact from Scott Black, the local Sydney Gas Manager, which contact was promised by another Sydney Gas staff member, Hind Kourouche, on 28th March. We are used to these undertakings not being honoured, so we haven't been surprised that he has not been in touch.

We are still awaiting an appointment with the new executive now that Dr. Moore has resigned; and we are still awaiting responses to the various letters we sent to Dr. Moore before his retirement.

A united community stopped Sydney Gas exploration in the Wyong Shire, and we can do it here.

“WITHOUT COMMUNITY SUPPORT THERE IS NO PROJECT”

A quote from the latest, now resigned, CEO of Sydney Gas, Dr. Phillip Moore, at the AGM in December, 2006 and also a quote from the Deputy Director General, Mineral Resources in February, 2007.

Hunter Bulga Gas Action Group Inc. PO Box 120, BROKE 2330

Tel: 0400456374 www.huntergasactiongroup.com.au