

GAS WATCH 186.

AUSSIES AND THE WORLD LOVE THE HUNTER VALLEY.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA LOVES THE BAROSSA.

WHY IS O'FARRELL AND HIS GOVERNMENT HELL BENT ON DESTROYING THE HUNTER BY LETTING AGL IGNORE SCIENCE AND EXPERIMENT WITH AND HARM ITS PRISTINE ENVIRONMENTS?

When will the O'Farrell Government and the Minister for Tourism and Member for the Upper Hunter, George Souris, realise that they must protect the world acclaimed Hunter Valley Wine and Tourism industry from disappearing into a coal seam methane gas field, and work with the local wine and food producers rather than against them?

When will AGL Energy see the light and realise that the Hunter Valley cannot afford the health and environmental risks of developing a coal seam methane gas field in the vineyards?

South Australia is proud of their new laws protecting the Barossa Valley and McLaren Vale. O'Farrell and Souris must be ashamed of their own treatment of the Hunter Valley as a fossil fuel quarry.

18th January, 2013:

Deputy Premier of South Australia announces the passing of the Character Preservation (McLaren Vale) and (Barossa Valley) Acts –

- *"laws that all South Australians can be proud of".*
- *"It gives me great pleasure to say that landmark legislation that protects our valuable Barossa Valley ad McLaren Vale regions is in place as of today."*
- *"Working with local wine and food producers we were able to create laws to protect the unique character of the Barossa and McLaren Vale and ensure that land continues to be used for its historic purpose – that is producing globally recognized gourmet food and wine."*

8th January 2013:

America's Wine Enthusiast Magazine (For over 30 years the world's number one source of wine education and travel):

- *The Hunter Valley selected as one of the 10 best wine travel destinations 2013, world-wide.*
- *Australia's Hunter is perfectly situated for wine tourism, just a couple of hours by road from Sydney.*
- *To really explore the Hunter, it's best to get up into it and stay overnight, or longer.*
- *As one of Australia's traditional grape-growing regions, there's plenty of history to discover, alongside vast open spaces and some terrific wines made in styles found nowhere else on the planet.*

6th December 2012:

Tourism Australia and Wine Australia announce a 3 year partnership to promote wine and tourism in key overseas markets and Australia from 1st January, 2013.

- *Collectively, wine and tourism contribute around \$140 billion annually in economic value.*
- *"Regional areas can especially benefit from the tourism opportunities offered by Australia's wine experiences, especially when matched with our fine food offering" (Andrew McEvoy MD Tourism Australia).*

December, 2012:

TripAdvisor Travellers' Choice Awards – Top 10 Wine Destinations in the South Pacific:

- Number 1 – Hunter Valley Australia.

- Hunter Valley is the oldest wine region in Australia, Flush with over 140 welcoming wineries.
- Plan your trip, with a choice of 87 hotels, 93 B & Bs and 475 holiday rentals.



PO BOX 116 BROKE NSW 2330 www.huntermvalleyprotectionalliance.com
20th January, 2013. Contact: Graeme Gibson 65791062