

GAS WATCH 200.

AGL takes another step in its destruction of the Hunter Valley.

It seems the Queensland approach of approving applications without requiring sound scientific bases for coal seam methane exploration has spread to NSW.

A photograph of the drilling site at Yellow Rock (below) near the Hunter Valley vineyard village of Broke, shows the first step in what AGL plans to be a spiderweb of roads, pipes, drilling pads and coal seam methane wells in the vineyards of the Hunter Valley.

And AGL is just about to commence similar drilling at a nearby site which has clearly not been adequately geologically researched.

The approving Department merely accepts the unsubstantiated, one paragraph of claims by AGL that it is unlikely there will be any problems, instead of requiring thorough independent geological examination.

For example, under AGL's next drilling site there is complex geology, including a well known fault in the earth's crust called the "Redmanvale Fault", under which there was a 2.8 earthquake in April, last year, and over which there is a substantial fresh water aquifer.

The Minister has been contacted with geological information requesting that the drilling be put on hold until there is a sound scientific examination of the geology. The Minister still has not adequately addressed this matter.

This is a disgrace. AGL is putting the Hunter Valley at risk in what the Government has announced as an "exclusion" zone from CSG development.

Under the Government's draft SEPP, AGL will not be able to obtain a licence to extract coal seam methane from on or from under the Hunter Valley vineyards exclusion zone.

It makes you ask why AGL continues to explore. Is it the lower echelon of AGL employees attempting to retain their jobs? Is it AGL trying to put pressure on the Government to allow extraction? Is it AGL just wasting its shareholders money? Who knows?

And to add to the perceived lack of teeth the Government has at its disposal, or in fact uses, AGL has been fined a paltry \$1500 for exceeding its nitrogen oxide emissions at Camden, after 3 years of continuously breaching its licence conditions for not monitoring its emissions into our fresh air. They should be closed down and fined millions for threatening our health from polluted air. \$1500 wouldn't cover their morning tea costs for more than a couple of days. This Company has breached the conditions of a number of its Exploration Licences, without penalty. The treatment of AGL at the hands of the Government watchdog is laughable.

FAREWELL AGL.



www.huntervalleyprotectionalliance.com 2nd April, 2013. Contact: Graeme Gibson 65791062

SEE PHOTOS OVER PAGE.



Photo of AGL's start of a gas field taken (31.3.2013) from Yellow Rock near the Hunter vineyard village of Broke showing obvious intention to drill under the Pokolbin State Forest in the background.

Below.....how the gas field develops. Of course AGL only shows one well at a time so you don't realise the eventual impact.



A Queensland Gas field.



A Wyoming Gas field.