

GAS WATCH 202.

Hunter Valley Council continues strong support of its community against the CSG mining in the Singleton Shire.

AGL ignores Community, local Council and State Government and keeps on drilling.

“There appears to be evidence that (environmental) impact could be significant and irreversible.”

“There appears to be serious risk of significant environmental impacts”

These statements, made in a report to Singleton Council, were adopted by the Council tonight when it debated the content of its submission to the Government in response to the Draft State Environmental Plan setting out the coal seam gas exclusion zones.

“Councils are specifically requested to identify villages which meet the defined village criteria so they can be included as residential land” and therefore fall within the exclusion zones contemplated by the SEPP.

Members of the community addressed Council, congratulating Council on its stand. Of course there was no appearance of AGL at the Council meeting. AGL, in its usual display of extreme arrogance, just continues to drill in the Singleton Local Government Area and in the viticulture exclusion zone without any consideration of the community or the local Council or the State Government.

Congratulations Singleton Council.

Shame on AGL Energy for continuing to “waste their shareholders money” (Minister Brad Hazzard) and for continuing to threaten the environment of the Hunter Valley for no return.

Councillors spoke of the need to “well and truly” protect all villages and communities in the Singleton Local Government area from the “intrusion of CSG” and unanimously resolved to:

1. Lodge the report as a submission to the exhibition of the draft amendment to the Mining SEPP.
2. Nominate land currently zoned 1(d) Rural Small Holdings which meets the defined village criteria. This includes the villages of Broke, Bulga, Jerrys Plains and Camberwell. Mapping identifying these villages is appended. While three of these villages lie within the CIC land, as mapped, it should also include the two kilometre buffer which is to be provided to residential land.
3. Request the inclusion of its future residential growth areas as depicted on page 40 of its DP&I endorse Singleton Land Use Strategy 2008 (appended as Attachment 3).
4. Request the inclusion of its rural residential areas around Singleton and Branxton in the exclusion zones. This involves land currently zoned 1(d) Rural Small Holdings, which is proposed to be zoned R5 Large Lot Residential and E4 Environmental Living under the draft Singleton LEP 2013.
5. Request the inclusion of Milbrodale, Kirkton, Whittingham, the Putty Valley, Belford, Lower Belford (to the eastern side of Black Creek) settlements as exclusion zones, similar to the residential exclusion zones.
6. Request the inclusion of the Dairy Industry as a CIC.
7. Not opt out of any of the exclusion areas.

FAREWELL AGL.

**HUNTER VALLEY
PROTECTION ALLIANCE**

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