

GAS WATCH 21.

SYDNEY GAS CONTINUES SECRECY.

Sydney Gas contractors were approached today by a neighbour at their Jessop core hole site. This neighbour had previously spoken to the drillers on site and that was when they told him that they had drilled down about 550 metres. That was about 28th June.

Today, however, they weren't prepared to reveal anything. When asked how deep they had drilled they said they weren't allowed to divulge that information and that they had been in trouble for divulging it previously.

Today they were asked when they would be finished. They said they knew when they were finishing but they weren't prepared to say. Hardly commercial in confidence, is it? Just more secrecy. More reason for the community to ask what they have to hide.

When will this company and its local staff finally realise that they must talk to the community? The law requires them to; the conditions of their approval to drill requires them to. But what do we get? A note from a Scott Black on 23rd July saying that the Review of Environmental Factors for the Jessop core hole is now displayed on their web site. Weeks after they started, and a week or so before they finish. Some community consultation.

Sydney Gas/AGL have been through the water table with no external monitoring. They are in the process of sealing the core hole shaft, with no external monitoring. We don't trust this company, yet no external body is there to make sure they do the right thing with our water and our environment.

We were hoping that Sydney Gas might change its spots and consult with the community, but nothing.

But later today, however, Sydney Gas have hand delivered a written invitation to some of the neighbours of the Jessop core hole saying "Sydney Gas is proud to support Mr. Paul Jessop and his efforts to thank the surrounding community for their consideration whilst our drilling activities were taking place upon his property. In doing so we are hosting a Barbeque Lunch to be held at his property at 329 Inlet Road Bulga on Sunday July 29. Lunch and refreshments will be provided from 12.30 pm."

Is this their idea of community consultation. To run roughshod over the community for months on end, and then to pat them on the head with a free BBQ. Not on your life. Noise. Truck movements. Drilling through the water table. Lack of monitoring. Damaging roads with their seismic acquisition program. Who would join such an invader of our community for a free lunch.

SAY NO TO SYDNEY GAS SHOULD THEY WANT TO COME ON TO YOUR LAND AND SPOIL OUR ENVIRONMENT.

Check out the HB GAG website for more information.

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

Tel: 0400456374 www.huntergasactiongroup.com.au