## GAS WATCH 258.

## AGL concedes that its mythical "Gas Supply Crisis" is just that, a myth.

They've pushed the "Gas Supply Crisis" line at every opportunity for the past 2 years.

Now we see it was all nonsense. We've been telling AGL that since before 2013. The Australian Institute has also been telling them the same thing for years.

Today AGL announced an agreement to purchase competitively priced gas from BHP's Bass Strait gas fields up until 2020.

In February, 2013 AGL and APPEA dreamt up the catch phrase "Gas Supply Crisis" in an attempt to panic the Government into reversing its decision to exclude sensitive Critical Industry Clusters from Coal Seam Methane Gas exploration and mining. And they succeeded in putting then Minister Hartcher into that panic, he saying that "The Government needs to ramp up the industry to avoid gas shortages and higher prices". Well he has probably more on his mind now than this comment.

And on top of being able to provide the Bass Strait gas for NSW, AGL further claims that it's gas portfolio now has sufficient Queensland sourced supplies to release 30 to 50 PJ of gas for sale into the high value Queensland market. So AGL has oodles of gas for NSW, enough to sell into Queensland as well. No shortage. No "crisis".

Three years ago we reminded AGL that the "BHP Billiton Petroleum Chief Mike Yeager said on 14<sup>th</sup> May, 2012 – "We want to make sure that the market knows that....We have a lot of gas in eastern Australia that's available. It's more important to let the citizens of Victoria and New South Wales and Queensland know, that there's plenty of gas to supply those provinces indefinitely. We have gas for sale and we will work with anybody at any time."" We invited AGL to pick up the phone and speak to BHP. Looks like they might have done finally taken our advice.

And, by the way, our letter of 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2015 to Scott Thomas, the new GM of Upstream Gas at AGL, seeking information from him and a meeting with him, continues to go unanswered. So much for the CEO's *"comprehensive review of the Company's Upstream Gas Business"*. They still won't speak with the community.

Same old AGL.



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