

# **GAS WATCH 30.**

## **Visit by Community Consultative Committee to Sydney Gas' Camden operation.**

The Community Consultative Committee met at the Sydney Gas' extraction operation at Camden on 7<sup>th</sup> February.

Again it was a constructive meeting. The Chairman of Sydney Gas, Dr. John Saunders, was positive in addressing the unique issues which arise in the Broke and Bulga areas of their Petroleum Exploration Lease area, chiefly the concerns relating to our closely settled rural area and how that would make gas exploration in the Broke and Bulga areas difficult for a gas explorer.

Dr. Saunders will be speaking to both AGL, its joint venture partner, and to AJ Lucas, the company newly merged with Sydney Gas, in relation to the Broke and Bulga difficulties.

Certain recent concerns were brought to the attention of Sydney Gas relating to its recent approach, via a third party rather than directly, to a landholder at Broke seeking property access for a core hole. Dr. Saunders said he would take that back to his Board and address our concerns at the next meeting. It appears this approach was made in this manner without the knowledge of the Sydney Gas hierarchy.

All in all, it is the overall view of the community representatives on the CCC that Sydney Gas is currently generally honouring the commitments it gives to the Community, with perhaps the exception of the approach referred to above.

The new Hunter employees of Sydney Gas, Colin Stace and Liz Flaherty, were present at the CCC meeting and at the inspection of the gas operation, however made no contribution to either.

The meeting was held at the Sydney Gas Camden operation at the invitation of Sydney Gas. The inspection was appreciated. It did confirm to us, however, that we must continue our resistance to having such infrastructure introduced into our tranquil side of the Hunter Valley.

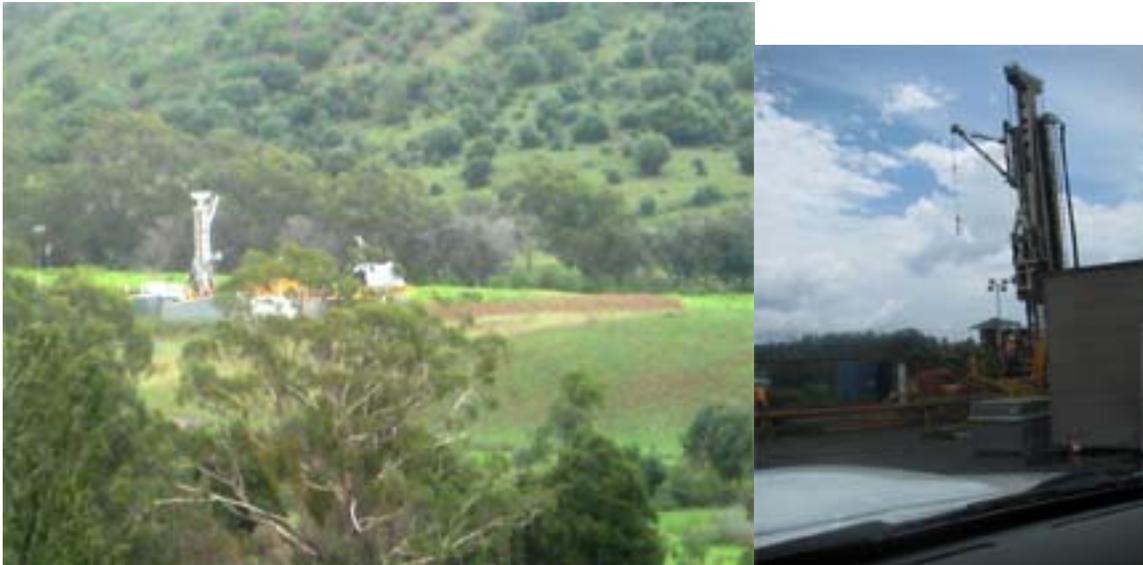
Following are a few photographs of what we saw:

### ***The Sydney Gas plant at Camden.***





***Production well heads.***



***Surface to in seam drilling, 24 hours per day with arc lights for night time operation.***

None of us wants this type of infrastructure to come into our valley, threatening the water tables, the horticultural or viticultural activities and our burgeoning tourist industry.

If you are approached by Sydney Gas, or someone on behalf of Sydney Gas, or by Scott Black, or by Colin Stace, or by Liz Flaherty, we urge you to contact HB GAG for free legal advice in relation to Sydney Gas, particularly if they approach you seeking to drill on your own property.

**DO NOT LET SYDNEY GAS, OR ANY GAS EXPLORER ONTO YOUR PROPERTY.  
THEY HAVE NO RIGHTS TO ENTER WITHOUT YOU SIGNING AN ACCESS AGREEMENT.**

**Do you want drilling rigs next door?  
Do you want pipes conveying gas through or adjacent to your property?  
Do you want Sydney Gas drilling under your property?  
Do you want a gas production plant covering acres of ground in our area?  
Well, do you? They can do all this, and more, if landholders start to sign access agreements.**

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