

# **GAS WATCH 59.**

## **CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from METHANE equal to those from 121,440,000 motor cars.**

Sydney Gas has been pretty quiet over the Christmas period, well since about September really, that is apart from selling itself to AGL Energy for millions of dollars.

No community newsletters; no remediation work on its well site at the Broke village; no information in relation to its exploration activities.

However, we live with renewed hope that AGL Energy will be a responsible corporate citizen and deal with the community in a much more professional and transparent manner than has been our experience with Sydney Gas.

Sydney Gas will be passing on to AGL Energy its claim that it has discovered 10,000 petajoules of extractable METHANE gas under the Hunter. This claim, of course, is based on unfinished exploration and may, or may not, turn out to be correct.

Sydney Gas did not dispute our figures claiming that if 10,000 petajoules of METHANE gas is burnt it will release nearly 528,000,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> into our atmosphere, accelerating global warming.

Just by way of interest, and taking that calculation a little further, this is equal to the emissions from 121,440,000 new motor vehicles being released onto the roads. When you think that there are only 15.3 million registered vehicles in the whole of Australia, this is a massive pumping of Carbon Dioxide into our fragile atmosphere.

We have written to Senator Wong, Minister for Climate Change, and to Peter Garrett, Minister for the Environment, exhorting them to ensure that before there is any further METHANE gas exploration, that proper safeguards be put in place so that the METHANE gas industry doesn't become as filthy an industry as the coal mining industry. With the experience of the coal mining industry, there is no reason why the METHANE gas industry can't be regulated from the start without having to go through the mistakes made by the Governments in regulating coal mining. This is an opportunity for Governments to have CO<sub>2</sub> sequestration policies in place before the METHANE is extracted, rather than trying to fix it up when the damage is being done.

No doubt AGL Energy will be knocking on your doors before long seeking to use YOUR land for its explore for METHANE gas. It may be the same crew, Andy Lukas, Mark Harper, who knows.

Just say NO and send them off your property. It is your property after all.

***THERE ARE REAL DANGERS TO OUR GROUND WATER, TO OUR ENVIRONMENT, TO OUR PHYSICAL SAFETY, TO OUR PROPERTY VALUES AND TO OUR LIFESTYLE.***

**Free legal advice is available in relation to any proposals put to you by Sydney Gas.**

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