

GAS WATCH 16.

On 7th May, 2007, Sydney Gas announced that their Managing Director, Dr. Philip Moore, has retired "on medical advice".

It is always a concern to think that anybody has to retire on medical grounds and we wish him a full and speedy recovery.

It is interesting that, from recollection, Dr. Moore was the 6th CEO of Sydney Gas since 2004.

The relationship of the Gas Action Group with Dr. Moore was not a fruitful one and the Group often criticised the CEO for lack of community consultation.

Sydney Gas has announced that the execution functions of the Company will be carried out by the current Chairman of the Board, Dr. John Saunders, and the Deputy Chairman Mr. Tony Sennitt.

The Gas Action Group has, it is believed, developed a good relationship with Dr. Saunders, and the Group now sees great benefit in this direct contact with the Board. The Group is now very hopeful that there will be a considerable widening of community consultation without the need to filter information through a managing director or part time local Sydney Gas staff. The Group is looking forward to an early meeting with Dr. Saunders.

There still has been no commencement of the drilling of the core hole on the Jessop property, despite the part-time-local Sydney Gas employee, Hind Kourouche, saying that she expected it to be commenced towards the end of April. Let's hope the company has changed it's mind, seen the community opposition and decided that the land use conflict and the danger to our water tables is too great to take risks with it.

The Group still has not been contacted by the local Sydney Gas manager, believed to be a Scott Black, notwithstanding Hind Kourouche saying on 28th March that she would ask him to contact us. These sorts of statements and undertakings have been rarely honoured by Sydney Gas to date, so it's not a surprise that he hasn't been in touch. Let's hope that will change with the new executive and the direct line to the Chairman of the Board.

A united community stopped Sydney Gas exploration in the Wyong Shire, and we can do it here.

“WITHOUT COMMUNITY SUPPORT THERE IS NO PROJECT”

A quote from the latest, now retired, CEO of Sydney Gas, Dr. Phillip Moore, at the AGM in December, 2006 and also a quote from the Deputy Director General, Mineral Resources in February, 2007.

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