**GAS WATCH 237.**

**Hunter Valley Community protests AGL’s plans to turn the vineyard village of Broke into Gaslands.**

Last Friday afternoon AGL was having a dinner at their Pooles Rock property (the former David Clarke vineyard) for, it appears, some of their executives and maybe a neighbour or two.

A group of community members, about 40 people, gathered outside the Pooles Rock property at Broke to remind AGL and its executives that AGL is not welcome in the vineyards. It was a small, peaceful protest.

Rather than interacting with the community and perhaps speaking to the community about their plans for fraccing in the vineyards, AGL “locked the gate” and had a gatekeeper hiding in the bushes to let their guests in, and then called the POLICE!! Wasting the time of several Police and three Police vehicles.

This is typical of AGL’s apparent “AGL versus The Community” approach rather than one of community involvement and community consultation.

Interesting to note that when there was a 400 strong protest outside Pooles Rock last year AGL did not call the Police. Perhaps because of the allegation that on that day, one of their staff stole protest banners from a neighbouring property.

AGL doesn’t even pretend to involve itself in the community. Their view appears to be “our way or the highway”. They even pulled the plug on the last Community Consultation Committee meeting because they claimed they didn’t know what their next step was in their Gasfield plan after the Government’s exclusion zones took a lot of surface area away from their CSG clutches.

It is pretty much impossible for AGL to claim that they have any sort of social licence to conduct any CSG operations in the vineyards, not only because the community and Governments don’t want them there, but because of AGL’s many breaches of their environmental obligations.

Perhaps they called the Police because they were a little hungry. Apparently the caterers they had engaged to cook their executive dinner gave them late notice that they wouldn’t work for them because of what AGL is doing to the local environment. Good call.

www.huntervalleyprotectionalliance.com

23rd March, 2014. Contact: Graeme Gibson 0418 239359.