

# **GAS WATCH 26.**

## **SYDNEY GAS DOES IT AGAIN ! ANOTHER CORE HOLE APPROVAL WITHOUT THE COMMUNITY KNOWING A THING ABOUT IT.**

Sydney Gas/AGL has obtained approval for another core hole. This one appears to be near the Mushroom Composters off the Broke Road in an area that Sydney Gas claims is Mt. Thorley.

Sydney Gas obtained this approval on 12<sup>th</sup> September, 2007 and it has only just come to our notice.

Sydney Gas obtained this approval:

- WITHOUT ANY COMMUNITY CONSULTATION.
- WITHOUT EVEN ADVISING THE COMMUNITY.
- IN BREACH OF ITS UNDERTAKING TO NOTIFY THE COMMUNITY AS SOON AS A REVIEW OF ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS AND APPLICATION WAS LODGED WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING.
- WITHOUT NOTIFYING ANY OF THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE.
- WITHOUT AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT.
- WITH A FLAWED REVIEW OF ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS.

Sydney Gas claimed in a recent meeting with HB GAG that it was attempting to change the culture of Sydney Gas so that it was more aware of the community and so that it would consult more widely with the community.

Sydney Gas has NOT changed its culture. It still appears to be intent on riding roughshod over the community. It appears to be the same old Sydney Gas. No community consultation. Secrecy. Lack of transparency.

A Community Consultative Committee (CCC) was established just so there would be community consultation. That Committee was supposed to have its first meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> September. Sydney Gas said they couldn't attend on that date and asked for a delay and this was granted. Let's hope that Sydney Gas isn't permitted to continue to dictate the deliberations of the Community Consultative Committee in the future. Meetings of the CCC are now scheduled for 31<sup>st</sup> October and 30<sup>th</sup> November.

If Sydney Gas had any intention of taking the CCC seriously, surely it would have at least let the members of that Committee know what it was up to. But it did NOT.

In that period of requested delay, Sydney Gas has lost yet another CEO and we have found out that they have gained approval for another core hole.

Sydney Gas cannot be trusted to consult with the community, either directly or through the Community Consultative Committee.

The approval, together with the Sydney Gas supporting documents and maps, are on the DPI website and can be read at <http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/minerals/environment/nod/petroleum>

**We haven't had the opportunity of reading the documents yet. Please read them and if there is anything in there that concerns you, or you think it is not right, please email HB GAG at [hbqaginc@bigpond.com](mailto:hbqaginc@bigpond.com)**

**Check out the HB GAG website for more information.  
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 ON TO YOUR PROPERTY. THEY HAVE NO RIGHTS TO ENTER WITHOUT YOU SIGNING AN ACCESS AGREEMENT.**

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