



Jacqui Kirkby
jkirkby@scenic hills.org.au

Dear Ms Kirkby

**STAGE 3 OF THE CAMDEN GAS PROJECT – NORTHERN EXPANSION (09_0048)
Exhibition of Response to Submissions and Amended Development Application**

I am writing to provide you with an update on the status of the above project as you have previously made a submission on the Environmental Assessment (EA) for this project.

The NSW Government has recently transitioned the existing project application from the former Part 3A assessment system into the new State Significant Development (SSD) assessment system under Part 4 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act). All elements of the assessment process that have already been carried out, including the previous public exhibition of the EA and the receipt of previous submissions, are taken to have been carried out under the new SSD system.

On 29 October 2012, AGL Energy Limited lodged a Response to Submissions that includes a request to amend the project under clause 55 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000*.

The Response to Submissions, which includes details of the Amended Development Application, will be on public exhibition from Tuesday 6 November 2012 until Tuesday 18 December 2012. This document may be viewed on the Department's website (majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au) or inspected at the Department's Information Centre, at Councils' offices or at the Nature Conservation Council.

I invite you to make a submission on the Response to Submissions and Amended Development Application by **Tuesday 18 December 2012**. A copy of the public notice is attached for your information.

The Minister has also asked the Planning Assessment Commission (PAC) to undertake a merit review of the project under section 23D of the EP&A Act, and to hold public hearings during the review. The PAC will publish further details on the review process and the public hearings in due course.

If you require any further information, please contact me on 9228 6305.

Yours sincerely

Clay Preshaw
Senior Planner
Mining and Industry Projects

STATE SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENT

Camden Gas Project – Northern Expansion (Stage 3)

Amended Development Application

Project Application No. 09_0048
Location 60 km south-west of Sydney
Applicant AGL Gas Production (Camden) Pty Ltd
Council Areas Camden and Campbelltown Local Government Areas

Consent Authority

Minister for Planning and Infrastructure under Part 4 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act)

Transition of Project into State Significant Development

On 19 October 2012, the Minister of Planning and Infrastructure signed an Order that transitioned the existing project application from the former Part 3A assessment system into the State Significant Development (SSD) assessment system under Part 4 of the EP&A Act. This Order was published in the NSW Government Gazette on 26 October 2012.

The Environmental Assessment (EA) for the project was previously exhibited publicly between Tuesday 26 October 2010 and Tuesday 7 December 2010. All elements of the assessment process that have already been carried out, including the previous public exhibition of the EA and the receipt of previous public and agency submissions, are taken to have been carried out under the SSD system.

Exhibition of the Amended Development Application

On 29 October 2012, the Applicant lodged a Response to Submissions that includes a request to amend the project under clause 55 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000* (EP&A Regulation).

Description of Proposed Project as Amended

The project as amended involves:

- the construction and operation of gas wells at up to 11 surface locations, containing up to 6 well heads each;
 - the construction and operation of associated gas gathering lines, including interconnection with the existing Camden Gas Project network, along with central water storage points;
 - the construction of access roads and ancillary infrastructure, including storage yards; and
 - subsurface drilling of lateral in-seam well paths.
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Merit Review by the Planning Assessment Commission

On 19 October 2012, the Minister also asked the Planning Assessment Commission (PAC) to undertake a merit review of the project under section 23D of the EP&A Act, and to hold public hearings during the review. The PAC has been directed to assess the merits of the project as a whole, paying particular attention to:

- the surface and groundwater impacts of the project, including the potential impacts of any hydraulic fracturing;
- any potential land use conflicts between the project and existing and future urban development in the area and/or the values of the Scenic Hills area; and
- any other potentially significant impacts of the project.

The Department will forward all the submissions it has already received on the project as well as any submissions it receives on the Amended Development Application to the PAC for consideration. The PAC will publish further details on the review process and the public hearings in due course.

Exhibition of Response to Submissions and Amended Development Application

The Response to Submissions, which includes details of the Amended Development Application, may be viewed on the Department's website (majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au) and may be inspected from **Tuesday 6 November 2012** until **Tuesday 18 December 2012** during business hours at:

- the **Department of Planning and Infrastructure**, Information Centre, 23-33 Bridge Street, Sydney;
 - **Camden Council Offices**, 37 John Street, Camden;
 - **Campbelltown City Council Offices**, Civic Centre, Queen Street, Campbelltown; and
 - the **Nature Conservation Council**, Level 2, 5 Wilson Street, Newtown.
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Submissions

You are invited to make a written submission on the proposed project as amended. Your submission should include:

- your name and address;
- the project application number (09_0048);
- a statement on whether you support or object to the proposed project; and
- the reasons why you support or object to the proposed project.

Your submission must reach the Department by **Tuesday 18 December 2012**, and should be:

- posted to: Mining and Industry Projects, Department of Planning, GPO Box 39, SYDNEY NSW 2001;
- faxed to: (02) 9228 6466; or
- emailed to: plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au

Persons lodging submissions must declare reportable political donations (including donations of \$1000 or more) made in the previous two years. For more details, and a disclosure form, go to www.planning.nsw.gov.au/donations.

Under clause 85A(2) of the EP&A Regulation, the Director-General is required to provide copies of submissions received during the exhibition period, or a report of the issues raised in those submissions, to the Applicant and other interested public authorities. It is Departmental policy to also place a copy of your submission on the Department's website. If you do not want your name to be made available to the Applicant, these authorities, or on the Department's website, please clearly state this in your submission.

Enquiries Clay Preshaw: (02) 9228 6305
