

Response to ABC Illawarra on Apex energy modification

Apex Energy currently has planning approval for the drilling and operation of 16 gas exploration boreholes at various locations west of the Illawarra Escarpment.

None of the approved boreholes have yet been drilled.

Under the conditions of approval, Apex Energy was required to carry out the approved boreholes within three years (ie by 22 September 2012). Apex has been unable to do this.

On 21 August 2012, the Department received a modification application from Apex seeking to modify the conditions of the approval to give it an additional three years for drilling and operation of the approved boreholes.

There are no changes proposed to the approved drilling operations.

The Department will notify and publicly exhibit the modification application. The Department will accept and consider any submissions made during the exhibition period.

It is likely to be considered and determined by the Planning Assessment Commission.

Please note that this application is related to planning approval – exploration licence approval is a matter for Trade and Investment NSW.