

AGL CAMDEN GAS PROJECT COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR 2018

AGL Camden Community Consultative Committee Details

CCC / Project Name:	AGL Camden Community Consultative Committee	Reporting Period:	January - December 2018
Independent Chairperson:	Margaret MacDonald-Hill	Proponent Contact:	Aaron Clifton and Alex Fitzpatrick

1. Executive Summary

The AGL Camden Community Consultative Committee was first established in July 2002 as part of a Consent Condition of Approval for Sydney Gas Operations. The history of the committee actually began prior to this as a community advisory panel convened by the former Department of Mineral Resources.

The Camden Gas Project is located sixty five kilometres south-west of Sydney in the Macarthur region of New South Wales, across the three local government areas of Camden, Campbelltown and Wollondilly. The Project currently produces approximately 5% of NSW's gas supply and consists of gas wells, 100 kilometres of low-pressure underground gas gathering lines, a high-pressure supply line, gas plant facilities and associated infrastructure.

The pilot plant known as the Ray Beddoe Treatment Plant was constructed by Sydney Gas, with the first delivery of gas and the first gas produced in NSW into the AGL network in May 2001. The pilot plant was later decommissioned and rehabilitated with the new gas plant at Rosalind Park becoming operational as part of the Stage 2 approvals in February 2004. The joint venture between Sydney Gas and AGL ended in November 2005 when AGL acquired sole interest as the operator of the project. Further proposed stages did not proceed and In February 2016, AGL subsequently announced that it would progressively decommission wells and rehabilitate sites at the Camden Gas Project and cease all production by 2023.

The Committee operates in accordance with the Department of Planning and Environment's 2019 Community Consultative Committee Guidelines for State Significant Projects.

The committee is currently comprised of:

- four local community representatives;
- a representative from the Barragal Landcare Group with a designated alternate;
- a representative from the Macarthur Branch of the National Parks Association;
- three Local Government representatives from Camden, Campbelltown and Wollondilly Councils;
- two AGL representatives, with attendance from other AGL personnel as required;
- one independent Chairperson.

The committee has also enjoyed a considerable benefit of the expertise of a representative from the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) for many years and in recent times a representative from the Gas Regulation Branch as invited guests. The opportunity to have questions answered by the EPA as they are raised by the Committee can never be understated in the practice of good community engagement.

Since the committee began, meetings have been held quarterly until 2016, when the committee resolved to change its meeting regime, in recognition of the approaching finalisation of the project, with the concurrence of the Department, and to meet biennial and receive two written reports from the company in between. Despite the longevity of the committee, attendance numbers and membership remain consistent, retaining two of the original community members. All members maintain a strong interest in the project, their community and local environment.

When AGL reviewed its policies and practices across all of its operations, the committee was involved in the formulation of the AGL Community Engagement Policy, the AGL Community Complaints Framework and the AGL Community and Stakeholder Engagement Plan. As a long term and active committee, the insights and experience of members are valuable. Equally, with the announcement of AGL's Local Community Investment Program, the committee was invited and is a participant in the grants application process.

For the reporting period, topics of discussion included but not limited to:

- operations update including well status
- decommissioning and rehabilitation program
- general environmental management and monitoring
- environmental compliance including noise, air emissions and produced water
- Annual Environmental Performance Report
- Annual Leak Detection Survey
- Triennial Independent Environmental Audit
- CSIRO Presentation on Methane and Volatile Organic Compound Emissions in NSW
- Presentation and update on EPA Gas Regulation Branch
- land and approvals update
- updates on Local Community Investment Program
- AGL business updates
- complaints
- broader community engagement and sponsorship.

As the Camden Gas Project approaches the end of operational life and enters into the decommissioning and site rehabilitation stages, the committee is well briefed on all matters pertaining thereto. The reporting process to the committee is comprehensive at meetings and also by the regular written updates in between. AGL is responsive to the committee's interests and suggestions at every level. Many guest speakers from Government agencies, external auditors, specialist presenters and the scientific community have attended meetings and as such, the collective knowledge of the committee is quite broad. The interest in the CSIRO Study of Fugitive Emissions has extended over a number of years.

The commitment of all members has made this committee a very effective communication and educative forum between the community, the councils and the company. It has functioned well over a great many years and accordingly, meets its objectives under the Department's guidelines.

2. CCC activities over last 12 months

- The committee met in March and September during the reporting period.
- Attendance at meetings is well attended with the occasional apology because of other commitments.

- There were no site visits for the period.
- There are no other active coal seam gas projects within NSW other than the Santos Narrabri project therefore no joint CCC's were held.

3. Key issues

The main focus for the committee as the Camden Gas Project approaches end of operational life over the next few years is the decommissioning and rehabilitation of all well sites and associated infrastructure.


Issue	Actions Taken	Next Steps
Land management and remediation	Close liaison with Camden, Campbelltown and Wollondilly Councils, landowners and broader community through dissemination of timely information.	Ongoing.
Future urbanisation of area	Identification of decommissioned well sites, notification process for councils and future land owners - register held by Government, access provided to local councils.	Ongoing.

4. Focus for next 12 months

The planned activities for 2019 will be guided by the contributions of the CCC members. An inspection of rehabilitated and decommissioned well sites is planned for the March 2019 meeting. A review of applications under the AGL Local Community Investment Program will precede the CCC March meeting.

To the best of my knowledge, there are no outstanding or emerging issues that have not been addressed or are in the process of being so, to the committee's satisfaction.

Committee Meeting minutes and presentations are available on the website within two weeks of each meeting.

Signature of Chair:	
Date:	March 25 2019