

DOWNSTREAM GAS SUPPLY AND AVAILABILITY IN NSW

Organisation: Dungog Shire Council
Name: Mr Craig Deasey
Position: General Manager
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DUNGOG SHIRE COUNCIL

All Communications to be addressed to:

The General Manager
Dungog Shire Council
PO Box 95
DUNGOG NSW 2420

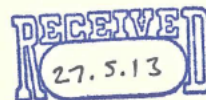
Telephone: (02) 4995 7777

Facsimile: (02) 4995 7750

Email: shirecouncil@dungog.nsw.gov.au

Website: www.dungog.nsw.gov.au

ABN 62 610 350 056



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24 May 2013

The Committee Manager
State and Regional Development Committee
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Sir/Madam

INQUIRY INTO DOWNSTREAM GAS SUPPLY AND AVAILABILITY IN NSW

Thank you for the opportunity to comment in relation to this Inquiry. The Dungog Local Government Area has no access to a reticulated gas supply.

All consumers of gas within our LGA are reliant upon LPG delivered by tanker to larger consumers or the swapping of gas bottles by a local hardware retailer.

The proposed gas pipeline from Gloucester to Hexham should that development proceed would run all the way down the eastern side of our Shire.

Council did recognise this project as a potential future economic driver for our region into the future and when briefed in relation to this project, the proponent at that time (Lucas Energy) quashed the notion as they stated that they were a gas supplier not a gas retailer. Now the development has changed ownership to AGL and our communities have still not been afforded such opportunity.

Far too often it seems that the natural resources and the benefits that should be derived from such for local communities are ignored in the development assessment and approval process.

It is time that approval agencies and Government look at communities that are both directly and indirectly impacted by major development that may have a significant economic benefit to the proponents and the State to ensure that such communities can prosper from such development in the long term if approved.

Yours faithfully

Craig Deasey PSM
GENERAL MANAGER