DOWNSTREAM GAS SUPPLY AND AVAILABILITY IN NSW

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INQUIRY INTO DOWNSTREAM GAS SUPPLY AND AVAILABILITY IN NSW

Maybe my area is not of interest in your Inquiry – Winmalee, Blue Mountains.

About 1998 we watched with interest, the gas line coming up the highway and right into Springwood where we were living on 10 acres and we got connected in 2000. In 2005 we moved 6Ks further along to Winmalee and I enquired about gas connection. AGL replied "We have no intention of extending the line in the near future."

The line stops at number . I am number . This road connects Springwood to Richmond

Over the last 6 years I have made subsequent enquires and get referred to Energy Connections NSW and Gemina – distributors. "Take up a petition with the neighbours" I have been told. There has been development at Hawkesbury Heights in that time and I am sure there would be two hundred plus dwellings from the end of the gas line that could be consumers and be a viable proposition. I am attached to oxygen 24/7 and my husband also has a disability so I will not be taking up a petition and doing the homework for AGL.

I would like to eliminate the combustion heater from my life. Apart from the work of buying in wood, the air in general outside is polluted with smoke from all the woodfires in the area and I have to remain inside with my oxygen. I'm sure most people want cleaner air to breathe. Living in a rural area does not mean cleaner air . . . bushfire smoke in summer and woodfire smoke in winter. People want to use clean energy and I think the government should advise the gas company distributors to make it available.

I realise Crookwell and other rural districts are probably the main areas for your Inquiry into natural gas supply but I suspect the Blue Mountains need connections branching out from the Gt. Western Highway.

I hope this information is of benefit to your Inquiry.

Yours faithfully,

Jann Zurcher (Mrs)