

DOWNSTREAM GAS SUPPLY AND AVAILABILITY IN NSW

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17 April 2013

Mr Andrew Gee MP
Chairman
State and Regional Development Committee
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Mr Gee,

**RE INQUIRY INTO DOWNSTREAM GAS SUPPLY AND AVAILABILITY
IN NSW**

I noticed the advertisement in The Sydney Morning Herald in relation to this committee's deliberations and telephoned Mr Tyler to ascertain the nature of the investigation.

He confirmed that it was appropriate for me to write to you about the village of Burrawang where I live.

Burrawang is in the Kiama State Electorate but is nowhere near Kiama. It is located approximately 6km west of Robertson and about 2km south of the Illawarra Highway. The relevance of that geographical description is that there is a gas supply that runs along the Illawarra Highway and supplies the township of Robertson but for some, as yet, unexplained reason all the residents at Burrawang need to buy bottled gas at great expense to themselves when a spur line running off the gas supply to Robertson would result in considerable savings to the residents and be a profitable venture for the gas supplier.

Burrawang is a private village established in the 1860's when a group of families walked from Jamberoo up the hill to Burrawang. Most of the houses in Burrawang were built during the period of 1860 to 1900 and the village is a very popular destination on weekends, largely because the Burrawang Village Hotel has recently won The Sydney Morning Herald award for the best country hotel in New South Wales. I know that the publican is keen to have a piped gas supply for his village.

The village now has a population of approximately 400 people and it will expand significantly over the next few years because land previously owned by the Deveson family is being subdivided for housing.

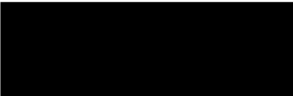
This will not only increase the population of the village and thereby increase the demand for gas, it will also increase the number of children at the local primary school as more families move into the area.

One of the pressing needs for the supply of piped gas to Burrawang is that gas is used throughout the winter months by residents for heating. Burrawang can get very cold in winter and temperatures have been known to go as low as -7° .

My own view is that if your committee is looking at areas of regional development the existence of the gas pipeline to Robertson, the proximity of the village of Burrawang to that, the likely future needs of gas supply to Burrawang make this village an ideal location for consideration by your committee.

Thank you for taking the time to consider the contents of this letter.

Yours faithfully,

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CT Barry QC