

GREG PETTY *MEDIA RELEASE*



Wollongong City Councillor - Independent - Ward 1

Petty says NO Coal Seam Gas in Wollongong LGA. No conditions. The amended resolution is clearly unacceptable and against what so many have protested and voiced their strong concern. It gives a condition that would allow CSG exploration in the Wollongong LGA.

A "[Mercury online](#)" posting April 11, 2013 (also in the Mercury paper) under "CONFUSED" asks why "Councillor Petty voted AGAINST the motion on CSG" at the April 8 Council meeting.

Councillor Petty explains [Council minutes](#) record the debate and the full resolution needs to be read in context.

An original motion was moved by Councillor Takacs seconded Councillor Curran -Page 18 Item 17 of the [Council minutes](#). An amendment by Councillor Connor, added the following words "**unless it can be demonstrated that additional supplies are necessary to sustain economic activity** while alternative energy sources are brought on line". As Councillor Connor's amended motion, the Minutes show that Councillors Takacs, Merrin, Curran and Petty voted against Councillor Connor's amendment.

The passing of Councillor Connor's amendment meant the (amended) motion then became the substantive motion. All Councillors except Councillor Petty voted for the Councillor Connor (substantive) motion.

So what does the effect of Councillor Connor's amended motion mean? In Councillor Petty's mind, at the time of the meeting, and still believed to be true, the motion means CSG mining is acceptable.

Stating that "**unless it can be demonstrated that additional supplies are necessary to sustain economic activity**" is no different to the situation in Gladstone Queensland. That approval acknowledges if any dugong is harmed in the course of CSG operations, the company then must pay \$100,000 compensation. That is like putting a price on the head of our wildlife and environment.

Cr. Petty objected and still objects to putting an override on the motion; CSG mining is not acceptable under any circumstances. We cannot give any Government the opportunity to approve the Petroleum Exploration License's in the Illawarra let alone anywhere else in this country with such an override proviso.

With the advent of internet broadcasting of Council meetings, interested parties can now review this [debate](#) in full.

During the debate, both Councillors Takacs and Connor were asked to consider accepting an amendment by Cr Petty.

The motion read "*seeks an extension of the exclusion zone to also apply to the West Dapto Release Area and the Sydney Drinking Water Catchment*", Cr. Petty sought that the "whole Wollongong LGA be CSG Exploration and Production free".

Why West Dapto only, surely all residents in the Illawarra demand the same exemption!

The problem was the amended motion and subsequent reporting, not Cr. Petty's change of heart on CSG mining as might have been first thought.

Photo taken in Dharawal Nature Reserve at a CSG borehole location on 08/02/2011

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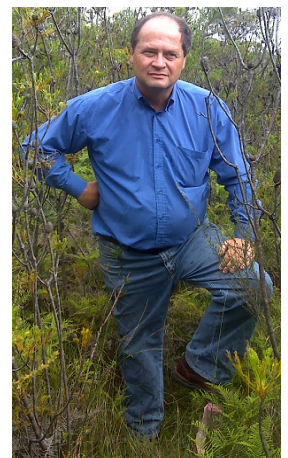
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12 April 2013



Extracts from Council documentation

Recommendation

- 1 The General Manager be granted delegation to finalise the attached submission to the NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure on the proposed Coal Seam Gas Exclusion Zones, which seeks an extension of the exclusion zone to also apply to the West Dapto Release Area and the Sydney Drinking Water Catchment.
- 2 A copy of the submission be sent to the NSW Premier calling for further measures to be announced to exclude Coal Seam Gas activities from Water Catchment Areas.

Minutes of Ordinary Meeting of Council 8 April 2013

ITEM 17 - SUBMISSION ON THE PROPOSED COAL SEAM GAS EXCLUSION ZONES

MOVED Councillor Takacs seconded Councillor Curran that -

- 1 The General Manager be granted delegation to finalise the submission to the NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure (attached to the report) on the proposed Coal Seam Gas Exclusion Zones, which seeks an extension of the exclusion zone to also apply to the West Dapto Release Area and the Sydney Drinking Water Catchment.
- 2 A copy of the submission be sent to the NSW Premier calling for further measures to be announced to exclude Coal Seam Gas activities from Water Catchment Areas.
- 3 In addition, Council point out (in terms of the World Bank Report of December 2012) that existing global economically recoverable reserves of coal, oil and gas, if burned, would lead to the global carbon budget, for limiting warming to no more than two degrees celsius, to be exceeded by a factor of five. Therefore, the NSW Government should give serious consideration to amending the SEPP to prohibit the issuing of any new permits for exploration of coal, oil and gas reserves.

68 COUNCIL'S RESOLUTION - An AMENDMENT was MOVED by Councillor Connor seconded Councillor Blicavs that -

- 1 The General Manager be granted delegation to finalise the submission to the NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure (attached to the report) on the proposed Coal Seam Gas Exclusion Zones, which seeks an extension of the exclusion zone to also apply to the West Dapto Release Area and the Sydney Drinking Water Catchment.
- 2 A copy of the submission be sent to the NSW Premier calling for further measures to be announced to exclude Coal Seam Gas activities from Water Catchment Areas.
- 3 In addition, Council point out (in terms of the World Bank Report of December 2012) that existing global economically recoverable reserves of coal, oil and gas, if burned, would lead to the global carbon budget, for limiting warming to no more than two degrees celsius, to be exceeded by a factor of five. Therefore, the NSW Government should give serious consideration to amending the SEPP to prohibit the issuing of any new permits for exploration of coal, oil and gas reserves unless it can be demonstrated that additional supplies are necessary to sustain economic activity while alternative energy sources are brought on line.

16 Minute No. Variation

The variation put forward by Councillor Bradbery (a change to the wording of point 3 of the above amendment from 'alternative energy generation sources' to read 'alternative energy sources') was accepted by the mover and seconder.

The AMENDMENT on being PUT to the VOTE was CARRIED.

In favour Councillors Connor, Brown, Blicavs, Dorahy, Colacino, Crasnich and Bradbery
Against Councillors Kershaw, Martin, Takacs, Merrin, Curran and Petty

The AMENDMENT then BECAME the MOTION.

The MOTION was PUT and CARRIED.

In favour Councillors Kershaw, Connor, Brown, Martin, Takacs, Merrin, Blicavs, Dorahy, Colacino, Crasnich, Curran and Bradbery
Against Councillor Petty