



(Incorporated under the Associations Incorporation Act, 1984)  
Incorporation No. INC9885807

PO Box 174 Gloucester NSW 2422 • email [bgspalliance@yahoo.com.au](mailto:bgspalliance@yahoo.com.au)

*Chairperson*  
Graeme Healy  
(Tel) 02 6558 8159

*Deputy Chairperson*  
Steve Robinson  
(Tel) 02 6558 7428

*Secretary*  
Penny Drake-Brockman  
(Tel) 02 6558 1845

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **AGL COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE WALKOUT**

There was a dramatic development at the special AGL Community Consultative Committee meeting held today for the purpose of recommending the appointment of a Peer Reviewer to the limited Stage 1 Water Study being prepared for AGL's Gloucester Coal Seam Gas Proposal.

At the meeting the Alliance's representative on the CCC, Mr. John Dugas, tabled a two page document and moved a motion that the meeting be adjourned until the flaws in the Phase 1 Water Study process have been addressed and that, before seeking a recommendation to appoint a Peer Reviewer, sufficient time be given to CCC members to consider the Phase 2 Water Study Report which has still to be released by AGL

"The stop-gap offer by AGL at the meeting to provide only the *Contents Pages* of the as yet unreleased Phase 2 Water Study Report was most disappointing" said John.

Mr. Dugas said: "In fact the consideration of a peer reviewer appointment is not a proper function of the CCC at all being outside its true prerogatives. In any event it is illogical that AGL should try to get the CCC to make decisions about a complicated document that AGL hasn't even made public let alone made available to the CCC."

"My motion for the meeting to be adjourned until the shortcomings brought by me to the attention of the CCC members was not accepted." said Mr. Dugas. "In the circumstances there was no alternative than to walk out of the meeting and it was gratifying that the representatives of other community organizations also walked out."

"The unseemly haste on the part of AGL to make these decisions is unacceptable to the community particularly when representatives of the Alliance had a conference with AGL executives only yesterday at which a reasonable and proper alternative was laid before AGL as to how the Project should be progressed." Mr. Dugas added.

The Alliance will now wait to hear from AGL regarding the matters raised at yesterday's conference before considering what further community action will be appropriate.

**For comment/interview:** E. B. Phillips 6558 0914 or [ebp@activ8.net.au](mailto:ebp@activ8.net.au)  
John Dugas 0411 112 072