

To the Gloucester community

Groundwater studies

During the last few weeks we have had inquiries regarding our groundwater studies. Among these was a question asking whether we would stop drilling, like Santos has in the Namoi catchment, until the groundwater studies are complete.

We acknowledge that there is some confusion about the studies we are completing and uncertainties around potential groundwater impacts. We hope the following information provides clarity on our groundwater studies.

Our Gloucester water study involves monitoring at more than 25 bore sites and three surface water sites from Gloucester to Stratford. Almost 12 months of water level and water quality data is now available on the natural variability of these shallow water sources and deeper coal seam zones.

The Namoi groundwater study is a broad desktop study based on historical information from across the catchment. This is different to the work we are doing. Our studies are more advanced and in real time. We are assessing groundwater levels, water quality and flow rates within the various aquifers, as well as monitoring salinity. Our studies focus on

local groundwater and local conditions. It is vital that we gather this base line information before we start production as it forms part of our condition of approval. We must have this base line data to feed into a model that will allow us to assess any potential changes in water conditions prior to production starting. We know that protection of shallow groundwater and surface water resources is the single most important issue in the community. We believe through careful management and rigorous monitoring our activities can coexist without impact. We also acknowledge that some people don't share this belief. That is why our water studies will be independently peer reviewed. We will continue to publicly share these studies, as we have done previously with the results of our desktop study, so the community can remain informed of our results.

Our field development work is currently limited to installing pilot wells. Pumping and flow testing from our pilot wells (which involves the dewatering of the coal seam) will not occur without further approval from the NSW Government. We also intend to consult with you about these studies and hope that you feel there will be ample opportunity to ask us questions about the study, its conclusions and our plans for the future.

Feedback on information sessions

Two weeks ago we conducted information sessions at Stroud, Gloucester and Stratford. At these sessions members of our project's technical and operational team were available to speak to residents about our seismic work. We are compiling a list of the questions from these meetings and responses will be published on our project website in the coming weeks. If you were unable to attend these sessions and have questions about this work we encourage you to contact the Gloucester Gas Project and speak to a member of the team. This work is planned to start in the coming weeks.

We encourage you to contact us if you have questions or comments:

Directly to our office (02) 6558 1166
Via our community line: 1800 180 680
Via our email gloucester@agl.com.au

Or visiting us at
Gloucester Gas Project office
22 Tate Street, Gloucester NSW 2422

Kind regards,

Toni Laurie
Land and Approvals Manager

Mark Bonisch
Operations Manager