

AUSTRALIANS AGAINST AGL DALTON POWER PROJECT

MEDIA RELEASE

**AGL COMMUNITY MEETING - DALTON NSW
WED 5 APRIL 7PM 2017**

Despite overwhelming public opposition, in 2012 AGL received conditional approval to build the largest gas-fired power station in Australia. Just 3km north of Dalton and 9km north-west of Gunning. The proposed **AGL Dalton Power Project (DPP)** is being resurrected and spruiked by AGL as a "solution" within the current debate over Australia's Energy Security.

On 15 March, 2017 just weeks from the approval period expiring, AGL has applied to the NSW Planning Department to extend their approval for two years. AGL states that the intention of this application is to allow them the opportunity to *"review and update the DPP in line with current technology and energy market circumstances"* and to lodge a **"more substantive modification (MOD2)"** within that period.

AGL's DPP is currently approved as a peaking facility, selling electricity to the market at times of scarcity and high return. A \$1.5 billion project that will operate for only 5% of the year, yet still be sufficiently profitable to justify outrageous costs and further delay the implementation of necessary renewable projects.

AGL suspended the DPP in 2012. The 5 year conditional approval expires on **19 July 2017**. Having made no attempt to commence the project, AGL now seeks to extend the lapse date for a further 2 years to consider their profit potential, given that "energy market" conditions have changed.

The original EA is 7-8 years old already. Much has changed in our environment since then. It will be 10 years old by the end of the extension period sought. Apart from uncertainty, anxiety, and the effect on property values associated with any approval of the MOD1, any MOD2 application would **not**, under Part 3A, require a new Environmental Assessment.

Part 3A was repealed in 2011. The "transitional" provisions under which the DPP is being assessed are about to be repealed. AGL seeks to whip our communities with the tail of the dying beast that is Part 3A, just as the community surrounding the Uranquinty facility was destroyed by its first breaths.

Both the original assessment and this MOD1 Application are tainted by the undisclosed political donations for which AGL was convicted in January 2017. We will not just accept being collateral damage. Not to a political point-scoring match about being seen to be doing something. Not to the greedy, purely profit-maximizing motive of AGL. Not to the gaming of the fundamentally flawed NEM and NSW Planning system by the self-interest of the powerful.

We refuse to be the discarded debris of this complete politicisation of Energy Policy by a corrupt coalition against Renewables.

LINKS TO RECENT MEDIA COVERAGE

28 March 2017 - ABC TV NEWS CANBERRA transcript:

<http://mobile.abc.net.au/news/2017-03-28/dalton-residents-ready-to-resume-fight-against-gas-powered-powe/8391222?pfmredir=sm>

MORE TO COME!!

**AUSTRALIANS AGAINST AGL DALTON POWER PROJECT
INVITE ALL MEDIA
TO ATTEND AN AGL COMMUNITY MEETING
WEDNESDAY 5 APRIL 2017
7PM
ST. MATTHEWS HALL DALTON NSW (ADDRESS OF HALL??)**

**ALL ENQUIRES
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