



30 May 2017

Justice Rachel Pepper,  
By email: [fracking.inquiry@nt.gov.au](mailto:fracking.inquiry@nt.gov.au)

Dear Judge,

We are a community group in Gloucester, NSW. For more than a decade the Gloucester community has been contesting plans for the industrialisation of our valley, including AGL's proposal to drill up to 330 coal seam gas extraction wells. That project has now been withdrawn partly due to overwhelming community opposition and partly due to financial non-viability.

Part of AGL's lobbying efforts included commissioning [a report](#) from ACIL Allen, *Future NSW Gas Supply and Usage: Economic Benefits Of Increased Coal Seam Gas Development*. (July 2014). This report was aimed specifically at facilitating fracking in our area with a "Gloucester Only" scenario included in its modelling.

We contest many of the other modelling inputs and assumptions in that report. If the financial assumptions in the report were valid, we suspect we would still be fighting the AGL project to this day. Fortunately, they were not valid. The report was clearly intended to boost AGL's push for development of CSG in Gloucester, regardless of economic, environmental and social facts.

Given our experience with the unconventional gas industry and ACIL Allen, we were surprised and disappointed to learn that you have selected these particular consultants to advise your inquiry. Given their involvement in lobbying for damaging unconventional gas projects, it is unlikely that their advice is likely to include any conclusions that might affect their lucrative work with gas companies. We suggest that you commission alternative consultants, or at the very least involve other parties in establishing the modelling assumptions and data sources that ACIL will use.

Yours Sincerely,

Julie Lyford  
President, Groundswell Gloucester