

**Submission
No 4**

DOWNSTREAM GAS SUPPLY AND AVAILABILITY IN NSW

Organisation: Tweed Shire Council
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Date Received: 13/05/2013

8 May 2013

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Dear Sir/Madam

**Submission - Inquiry into downstream gas supply and availability
in NSW**

Council commends the State Government on the terms of reference with respect to the inquiry into downstream gas supply and availability in New South Wales. Tweed Shire Council has a population of approximately 90,000 residents which is forecast to grow to 132,000 by 2036.

Presently limited reticulated gas is available to residents within the greater Tweed Shire. There are currently two Part 3(A) approvals for the suburbs of Cobaki (a 5,500 lot residential subdivision) directly adjacent to the Queensland border and for Kings Forest (a 5,000 lot residential subdivision) south of Kingscliff. It is likely that due to a BASIX requirement many of the homes constructed will have gas appliances and hot water. It is essential that a gas reticulation system is available in estates such as these.

Many new properties however, not currently serviced in a gas reticulation suburb need to be serviced with 45kg gas bottles. The price and costing position of bottled gas makes it a very costly energy solution for residents within the Tweed.

It is therefore suggested that item (e) of the Terms of Reference be amended to:

- (e) *possible measures to encourage gas network operators to extend existing distribution networks, including financial incentives of licence obligations, particularly in regional centres, **with high predicted growth rates**, that do not have access to reticulated gas*

Yours faithfully

~~Troy Green~~
ACTING GENERAL MANAGER