

25 September 2010
Mr Peter Fray
Editor
The Sydney Morning Herald
GPO Box 3771,
Sydney NSW 2001

Sir

I write to correct gross errors in recent articles in relation to exploration by Apex Energy.

First, three inappropriate drill sites were removed from the Apex application because two locations were in advance of mine workings, and a third within extensive geological disturbances. At no time did Apex join discussions with the Department of Planning and a potential business partner in relation to this matter.

Second, the Illawarra Gas Exploration Project has been highly visible to the wider community since 2001, through consultation, notification of licenses, government advertising, media interviews, public meetings, and regular updates on the company website – www.apexenergy.com.au.

Third, Apex Energy is undertaking an exploration program and has not prepared gas extraction plans for its exploration areas. SMH stories ignored the clear statement by Apex that the company's goal is to pioneer alternative completion methods, on which it has already spent extensive resources.

Finally, Apex has not developed a strategy for the Burragorang area and does not have a Burragorang planning application underway. Work to date has been desktop evaluation only. If Apex does develop a plan it will be in strict accord with legislated requirements and follow consultation with all stakeholders, including the Sydney Catchment Authority.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Rogers', is written over a light grey circular stamp.

Chris Rogers
Chief Operating Officer
Apex Energy NL