



HAMISH ROSS

OBJECT

Submission ID: 217731

Organisation: <i>N/A</i>	Key issues: <i>Land use compatibility (surrounding land uses)</i>
Location: <i>New South Wales 2577</i>	
Attachment: <i>Attached overleaf</i>	

Submission date: 11/24/2024 4:26:44 PM

Please see attached.

I am a resident of Moss Vale and have been associated with the Southern Highlands for 30 + years.

Our cattle producing property (44 hectares) is located within 900m (0.9 km) from the proposed site and I would like to voice my objection to the proposed plans to construct and operate a large heavy and hazardous plastic waste recycling facility – Plasrefine is in the wrong location / wrong site.

I am not against recycling and not against any industrial businesses - I am against any business in the wrong location.

We know we all need industrial and heavy industrial business to provide, everyday products, economic growth and employment.

I would be against any heavy industrial business re it be chemical processing business to a fuel refining business (examples only) that are not suitable for the right location to operate from, either being here in the Southern Highlands or anywhere else that is not suitable.

The proposed construction and operation of a large recycling business located within a few hundred metres of prime agricultural land, 200m from residential properties, surrounded by existing business and any future business, within the Sydney water catchment area, close to schools, endangered species habitats and so on, has astounded me how the proposed project has gone this far.

The lack of transparency and inadequate detail throughout the process and claiming greater detail will be provided once approved re concerns to light pollution, smell and air quality, water output and usage, noise, traffic management etc., is unacceptable.

I have associates and friends that work for Fire and Rescue NSW, Hazmat units and they have indicated that it's a matter of not if a fire occurs, but when a fire occurs there will be a lot of concerned people regarding the toxic residues entering our waterways and affecting agricultural and residential properties in surrounding area and Sydney drinking water.

I have been in the waste/construction/transport industry for over 30 years and the damage I have encountered to road infrastructure re continual truck movements in and out 24 hours a day of 160-200 heavy vehicles (and will only increase in the future if approved) will make the surrounding roads dangerous and congested. Lives will be at risk with the amount of heavy vehicles on the road in the immediate area and for the roads allocated to be used.

I have seen and been involved with the cleanup of hazardous waste from truck accidents and also trucks catching fire, helping with the cleanup of fire-retardant chemicals used to extinguish plastic and industrial flames, to assisting with preventing fire-retardants from entering water ways and damaging the environment. Not only are the water ways contaminated, the surrounding soil, wildlife and infrastructure is contaminated and it is a very costly and expensive exercise to clean up to a suitable and acceptable standard.

In the past, heavy industrial was setup along the Parramatta River around the suburbs of Rhodes and Homebush in Sydney. In those days they believed they were doing the right thing and pumping hazardous waste and by products into the harbour as it was okay to do back then. So let us all learn from the past mistakes our ancestors made and not make the same mistake again for our children,

grandchildren and future generations to have to clean up our mistakes. It is not only the financial costs involved but the environmental damage for the future generation, if this hazardous waste/plastic recycling facility is to be constructed and operate in a Sydney Water catchment area.

The proposed plastic (waste) recycling plant (Plasrefine) location/site is an act of environmental and social vandalism affecting the community of the Southern Highlands and affecting the precious drinking water of Sydney and surrounding areas.

The negative impacts on property values, the mental health impacts of the community, the anxiety associated with the unknown health issues/risks, are among the many reasons that this facility should not go ahead on the proposed site.

Given the strong opposition of so many in the community for so many varied reasons, I strongly believe that the proposed Plasrefine should NOT be approved for the site in Moss Vale.

It is simply not the right site.

The below image shows the direct flow of water runoff from the proposed site (marked by the yellow star) into the Wingecarribee River, one of the main catchments for Warragamba Dam and drinking water for Sydney.

