Evolyn Garrett

1. I live Moss Vale with my husband Jason.
2. Jason is speaking next.
3. We have 3 children age
4. The 2 youngest are in schools locally.
5. I have brought them here today because this development directly effects
them.
6. Our home on is 520 metres from the proposed plastics factory
according to Google maps measurements.
7. We have lived at our property in Moss Vale for nearly 10 years.
8. We object to the biggest plastics recycling factory being built in our backyard.
9. We are concerned about air quality and the health of my familyand
10. We do not want to breathe the air from this factory.
11.I already suffer from asthma and allergy. The type that wakes you at night.
12. We do not want our water contaminated.
13. We do not want our children to become sick.
14. We do not want our animals to get sick.
15. We do not want the native wildlife to be trampled.
16. In the Southern-Highlands we value our heritage buildings, rolling hills,
bushland and native wildlife.

- 17. The Southern Highlands is a tourist, wine and hospitality region. Visitors come here to enjoy the region.
- 18. This is not the right site for the biggest plastic recycling factory in Australia.
- 19. There are no benefits to our community.

20. The factory represents an unreasonable burden on the community and wildlife and unfair interference in our way of life and risks to health and safety.

## Addressing the Social Impact Assessment (Appendix D)

- 21. The Social Impact Statement was only prepared following significant community concerns.
- 22. Half of the report does not contain actual content but rather an index or explanation of definitions.
- 23. It is not a robust report.
- 24. It contains a number of efforts and matters not properly thought through. For example for a factory operating 24/7 its workers will be encouraged to cycle there, presumably through the night.
- 25. It contains a community profile page 25: In summary, the study areas are characterised by an ageing population and lower than average socioeconomic indicators. Residents typically live in low density dwellings and home ownership is high. Households are typically characterised by couples with and without children, and lone persons.
- 26. Significantly higher median age than the NSW average, at 47.2 (compared to NSW average of 38.8). According to the Social Impact Statement residents are on average 47 years old. I am that age.
- 27. It is unclear what can be drawn from the profile.
- 28. However I have seen this area change over the last 15 years and there are more families now who have moved from Sydney. It is not simply an ageing population.
- 29. The Social Impact statement acknowledges impacts are most significant for residents living within the PSA (within a 800m radius from the subject site).

- 30. As a receiver of the social impacts living 500 metres from the site I can only see negative impacts.
- 31. It is stated that overall, the relevant social impacts, if mitigation methods are successfully adopted, will range from low to high. Social impacts may be viewed as positive or negative, dependant on the receiver.
- 32. That certainly does not summarise the views of the Southern Highlands.

  People making submissions overwhelmingly see negative.
- 33. We have a rural property away from the dust and noise of city and factories.
- 34. We choose to live here rather than in a city. In fact I drive over an hour to work 3 days a week because I want to choose to live where I live.
- 35. We are not interested in employment. We are employed either remotely or in Wollongong. We don't care about jobs in a plastics factory.
- 36. We are not interested in facilities to enable educational activities for school groups and other interested parties to be carried out (and learn about plastic waste, plastic recycling and turning wastes into valuable resources. We will not be signing those permission notes.
- 37.I am not particularly concerned about temporary potential negative impacts associated with construction activity and potential permanent visual impacts.
- 38.I am not concerned about the proposed mitigation to consider whether any additional planting is required on adjoining properties to further reduce visual impacts, which is to be a collaborative process with affected residents and accompanied by further consultation with affected residents. This does not assist me with microplastics.
- 39. My concerns are not visual impacts or concerns associated with the construction phase. We are more concerned about the operational phase.

- 40. Some members of the community may have concerns about living in proximity to a plastics recycling facility due to the potential emissions, which some may believe have long term health impacts. This concern was raised in the Engagement Outcomes Report (GHD, 22 December 2021) however the applicant has noted that 'there would be virtually no opportunities for microplastics to escape from the buildings as part of the process. All operations associated with the proposal would occur inside buildings" (pg 5 Engagement Outcomes Report GHD 22 December 2021).
- 41. Unfortunately I do not believe them and time will tell. The reality of life is that things go wrong.
- 42. The reality is that microplastics will be emitted into the air and water.
- 43. We are not reassured by the reports in relation to air or water.
- 44. We do not consider the conditions on the recommended approval regarding air and water will resolve these issues. The conditions assume all things being done correctly.
- 45. We are not satisfied by ongoing engagement with nearby residents to establish if negative health and wellbeing impacts are being experienced and to work out mitigation techniques if appropriate and required. That is a very vague suggestion, will not assist me when I am looking after my sick family.
- 46. Unfortunately it will take our family and community becoming ill to know that this was the wrong site.
- 47. Then people can be sorry. The damage will then be done.
- 48. Bowral Hospital cannot cope with mass illness. As it is people who need more significant assistance are sent to Liverpool or Campbelltown.

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- 49. We are in the Commission's hands to prevent this development occurring and making us all sick.
- 50. It is the responsibility of the Commission under the legislation, to protect the environment which includes all aspects of the surroundings of humans, whether affecting any human as an individual or in a group.
- 51. The Southern Highlands is not an appropriate location.
- 52. Their report suggests virtually there is nothing near 74-76 Beaconsfield Road other than a Dux factory and rural land. But we are here.
- 53. In the words of the Who's in Horton Hears a Who! by Dr Suess,

  We are here! We are here! We are here!

  We are here! We are here! We are here!

  We are here! We are here! We are here!

54. This is not the right site.

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