



BRUCE CHAMPION

OBJECT

Submission ID: 211729

Organisation: N/A	Key issues: <i>Social impacts, Visual impacts, design and landscaping, Land use compatibility (surrounding land uses), Traffic, Other issues</i>
Location: New South Wales 2578	
Attachment: N/A	

Submission date: 11/5/2024 11:26:29 AM

I oppose the proposed plastic recycling facility at Moss Vale for the following reasons:

1. Proposed location is inappropriate: too close to farms, residential premises, schools and the town. There is no significant buffer zone. Microplastics will be released into local waterways, the Moss Vale sewerage treatment system and hence to Warragamba Dam, affecting all of Sydney's drinking water. Microplastics will be released into the air and hence into the lungs and bodies of residents and other living things, where they will remain. Chemicals in microplastics have been shown to affect human genetics, brain development and reproduction. Studies in the UK have shown a loss of up to 13% of recycled plastic going into the environment whereas Plasrefine claims 6%. Other chemicals used in the recycling process have not been divulged by the proponent, so their health risk and environmental risk are not known and can't be assessed. Chopping, shredding and washing of plastics has been shown to produce millions of nanoplastic particles (less than 10 microns) that cannot be filtered out of the plant's wastewater or the air, creating a potentially bigger plastic pollution problem that the recycling process is meant to be solving.

2. If the work force to operate this centre is drawn from the local population, how will the air-born microplastics inside the facility affect their health and that of their families?

3. There has been no consideration of Moss Vale Sewerage Plant's capacity to cope with an additional 10,000 litres per day of discharge from Plasrefine, including an estimated 7200 tonnes of microplastic pollution. The sewerage plant already requires upgrades to cope with the expanding residential areas.

2. High volume of heavy vehicle traffic generated. 200 trucks per day bringing plastic to the proposed recycling centre and leaving 24/7 will impact the local roads and increase the risk of collisions with others. These trucks will produce their own noise and environmental emissions, affecting residents of New Berrima and Moss Vale.

Trucks will have to cross the railway line near the Boral Cement works on Berrima Road, creating further safety issues.