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OBJECT

Submission ID: 211854

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 2577	
Attachment: N/A	

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I wish to register my strongest objection to the proposed development and construction of the Plasrefine plastic recycling plant in Moss Vale NSW. I along with my Family am a resident of Moss Vale and am highly concerned for this project for the following reasons:-

Plasrefine Supporting Documentation Flawed

The supporting documentation provided by Plasrefine management is misleading and includes various important factual statements that are incorrect as noted by Cr Rachel Russell at the Public meeting in Bowral held on 28 October

Air Pollution

There is a very high risk of fine dust particles being released into the country air from the processing, crushing and reforming of various forms of plastic that in themselves contain a range of toxic chemicals. Compounding the risk of airborne dust particles is the undeniable fact that the predominant wind in the Southern Highlands is from the west resulting in such airborne particles to be blown onto the residential, commercial and retail communities of Moss Vale, Bowral and other hamlets including Sutton Fores and Exeter.

Water Pollution

Uncontained water run off will from any contaminants including ~'forever chemicals' would end up in streams that flow directly into the Sydney Water catchment and ultimately the Warragamba Dam. This will not just impact the water drinking residents of the Southern Highlands but also the residents of greater Sydney;

Water Use

I understand at this stage there are no seriously advanced plans for dedicated on-site water use. I would like to know what the back-up plans are in the event of dry periods and/or drought. How much water would be allocated to the Plasrefine plant from local sources in such an event and if any modelling has been completed to determine how this would impact local residents ?

Transport Movements

It is understood there would be 50 x truck movements daily moving 120,000 tonnes of waste material annually which I also understand doubles when the trucks turn around for reloading. It is not clear if these movements operate in day time hours or 24/7 but if it is the latter this would have a major impact on the current peaceful amenity of the townships of the Southern Highlands. It is understood truck movements would route through the main street of Moss Vale and then move along residential streets enroute to the plant location. This would also be a major disturbance and put at risk children attending schools within the Moss Vale and Bowral area.

The road network within the Moss Vale location is of poor quality and in desperate need of an upgrade including the need for a by-pass of the Moss Vale township which has been in the planning stages for well over 10 years Large truck movements would place further strain on the current poor infrastructure and add to the already congested streets of the surrounding area;

Zoning Determination



I understand the sponsors of the Plasrefine project have relied upon the industrial zoning dedicated to the proposed site to gain DA approval for their plant. Given the potential high risk hazards associated with treating and recycling plastics surely the plant would be more appropriately deemed a hazardous industry and therefore the plant would not meet the current industry zoning determination;

Proximity to Residential Property

The plant is to be constructed within 200m metres of long existing and established residential property. There can be no disputing the plant will be visually impacting but will be noisy, pollute air quality and have a high impact on road infrastructure in the greater Southern Highlands;

Power Usage

A plant of this size and scale will no doubt have an impact on the power demand in the local area. What plans are there for upgrading services in the area to ensure residents do not face blackouts and power outages ?;

Fire Plan

What is the plan to manage any fires at the plant ? Given any fire would likely involve the burning of plastics and chemicals will the sponsors be incorporating a plan to establish a Hazmat firefighting unit nearby and how will they contain any firefighting chemicals from reaching water runoff areas and flows into the Sydney Water catchment areas;

Environmental Impact Reports

Can the sponsor share copies of any EIR's prepared in relation to the project;

Future Expansion

With the current plans to treat just 15% of NSW's plastic recycling requirements and 120,000 tonnes/year what is the plan in 5 years and 10 years. No doubt there will likely be a doubling and more of operations leading to an even greater impact on the local community including air quality, water quality, road infrastructure, fire and chemical spill risk and power supply issues.
