



MARGARET ALCOCK

OBJECT

Submission ID: 0

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	
Attachment: N/A	

Submission date: 11/17/2024

Good afternoon,

Thank you for the opportunity to send a submission re above. I agree that plastic waste is a huge environmental problem, but little seems to be being done at the production end to limit its production. I know there are some private companies in Australia that are already converting waste into objects such as street furniture - of course one wonders what will happen to those when they deteriorate. (Although I understand there are some countries that have carried out recycling of the recycled.)

My objections are as follows:

- 1. The Southern Highlands is a dedicated Regenerative Farming area and many of our farmers' properties are also organic. It seems difficult to ascertain what type of chemical output will be produced during the plastics recycling and this could severely impact on those farmers' ability to remain organic. The positioning of this facility is far too close to farms and townships.*
- 2. The understanding of this recycling system is that it needs water (and as we all know Australia is a water-poor country). However, it seems there is no plan in place for the facility to recycle and thus re-use the water taken from this catchment area, thus it will be unnecessarily added to the local sewage system and at some stage end up in the already damaged ocean. (Water from this area recently received the award of 'best tasting in NSW'.)*
- 3. As truckloads of waste plastic will be sent from States other than NSW, it seems no thought has been given to the massive carbon footprint that this creates. Each State should be responsible for its own plastic waste and not send it thousands of kilometres. We already have a huge loss of wildlife due to truck traffic passing through the area - every day one sees dead kangaroos and wombats on the sides of roads.*
- 4. There is limited information on the owners of this foreign-owned company and what type of recycling system they will be undertaking. It seems obvious that the building of this facility has come about due to the fact that [REDACTED] is no longer taking our plastic waste. (How short-sighted were our governments in signing on to that agreement in the beginning. Decades back our governments should have been establishing recycling facilities and recycling research. It seems that countries in the EU such as Germany and France are doing a much better job of this than countries such as the US.)*

5. [REDACTED]

While people of the Southern Highlands would like to see good outcomes for plastic waste reduction, this facility is planned for the wrong place.

Thank you for your consideration,

Margaret Alcock