



**MARIETA MATTHEWS**

**OBJECT**

Submission ID: 215420

Organisation: N/A	Key issues: <i>Social impacts, Visual impacts, design and landscaping, Traffic</i>
Location: New South Wales 2576	
Attachment: N/A	

Submission date: 11/18/2024 4:36:22 PM

*I'm a resident of Bowral, Southern Highlands. I'm outraged that the Plasrefine development proposal has now reached the IPC for final approval. I have sat through every presentation of the 3 meetings between local residents, IPC, GHD, DHPI and Plasrefine.*

*The NSW Department of Planning, Housing & Infrastructure (DPHI) has made a recommendation of approval to the IPC, without doing the required due diligence.*

*This has not been a democratic process and the residents of the Southern Highlands, in particular Moss Vale, have been disregarded. Because this development is classified SSD, the proponent is not required to comply with standard development regulations. I am particularly concerned about the fire safety risk, but no process has been followed to ensure the safety of nearby residents. There is no buffer between residents and this development, and should this plant catch fire, health and potentially lives of residents will be compromised.*

*Reasons why I object to the Plasrefine development proposal:*

*-The proposed Plasrefine building, (15 m high plus multiple 2m stacks), is visually not in harmony with this beautiful rural location, and not sympathetic to the sensitive environment.*

*-An access route has always been a major concern and still is. There is simply no safe way for heavy trucks to approach and leave this facility safely. 100 truck movements and 200+ lighter vehicle movements per day is simply not viable.*

*-We have heard the traffic concerns from Moss Vale residents. Who will police designated routes, what about truck banking? Our roads are crumbling, who will fix, fund and maintain damaged roads? Trucks to and from the facility will be super spreaders of micro plastics.*

*-The proposed site is in a bushfire zone as can be seen on the RFS website when the address 74-76 Beaconsfield road Moss Vale is added to the search bar. The RFS headquarters signed a letter to say that the site is not in a bushfire zone, which is incorrect.*

*A local senior member of the RFS, queried the letter that was signed off by Alastair Patton on 8 October 2020, but he was ignored. No proper fire risk assessment has been done. Another application has been made to the RFS to clarify this.*

*-Local fire stations do not have the resources to fight large fires, in particular plastic recycling fires. There is one unmanned station in Moss Vale, a total of 6 fire trucks in the SH, and backup stations are an hour away.*

*A large amount of plastic that is not suitable for recycling and could potentially be carrying Lithium batteries, will be onsite, until it gets removed to be disposed of in landfill. This is a huge fire risk, and this is where most fires start in recycling facilities.*

*-The recycling plant is a mere 150 metres away from the closest resident, 650m from a childcare centre. It will be impossible to evacuate residents in a 2km radius from the site in a timely and safe manner in case of a fire/explosion. There is no buffer zone between the factory and adjacent properties.*



*-Plasrefine will be built on land with riparian water. Their chemical waste, PFAS, micro and nanoplastics will leak into the Wingecarribee river, which will undoubtedly endanger our protected Platypus population.*

*-Flooding may also occur and would certainly carry pollutants from the proposed site to our drinking water catchment area. The toxic pollutants or 'forever chemicals', will be deposited into the Wingecarribee river, which eventually ends up in the Warragamba dam, Sydney's main water resource.*

*-The Highlands is a high wind area, and smoke from the stacks will be blown all over the highlands, causing environmental pollution and serious health issues. There are multiple school, sports and other outdoor facilities in the area.*

*-Plasrefine claims this will be an 'enclosed facility', but how is that possible when the roller doors will be open for at least 5 hours per day to allow truck movements in and out of the facility? Strong prevailing Westerly winds, will enter the building through the roller doors. Plastic pollutants will stick to the trucks that exit and will be spread as they leave the facility. There is no way to ensure a foolproof 'enclosed facility'.*

*-Plasrefine will be located next to the internationally accredited Garvan medical research institute, and noise, emissions and vibration will undoubtedly disturb and affect the mice used for testing in this research centre.*

*-Plasrefine will not fit in with the proposed SHIP development, which is State endorsed and has already received state funding. It is an innovative development that will provide multiple opportunities for Southern Highlands residents, especially for future generations. If Plasrefine gets approved, it will certainly discourage companies from acquiring land for development and investment in the SHIP. It has already lost a huge investor who has taken his business to Indonesia.*

*-Plasrefine will be reliant on Wingecarribee Council for water and power supply. How will residents be affected in case of drought and water restrictions? Our local power supply will be put under increased stress by the demand from this proposed facility.*

*-The social impact of this proposed development on our community has been enormous! We have had this sword hanging over our heads for 4 years. We have respected deadlines, submitted objections, yet here we are!*

*We are a resilient community, and we won't give up.*

*We ask of the IPC to reject the Plasrefine development proposal for this location. It is definitely not the right site.*

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