



NAME REDACTED

OBJECT

Submission ID: 215109

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 2575	
Attachment: N/A	

Submission date: 11/17/2024 8:54:58 PM

As someone who grew up in the Southern Highlands and has chosen to raise my family here, I strongly oppose the proposed plastic recycling refinery in Moss Vale for the following reasons:

1. *Health and Environmental Risks: Plasrefine poses a significant threat to the health and safety of our community and the local environment.*

2. *Drinking Water Contamination: The proposed facility risks contaminating Sydney and Goulburn's drinking water. Microplastic-laden runoff could enter the Wingecarribee River, which feeds into the Warragamba Dam. While the long-term health impacts of microplastics are uncertain, the potential for severe medical issues is undeniable, especially if water filtration processes fail.*

These two points alone highlight why this proposal should be rejected—the risk of a catastrophic event is simply too high.

However, there are further reasons why this project is unsuitable:

3. *Insufficient Emergency Services: Our local fire services are under-resourced. Moss Vale's station is unmanned and volunteer-run, with only one truck. Across the Highlands, there are only four fire trucks and one hazmat vehicle, with the next nearest resources located 45-50 minutes away in Goulburn, Campbelltown, or Shellharbour. Fires at similar facilities often reach 1,000°C and require extensive resources, often more than 80 firefighters, 15 pump trucks, and six hazmat vehicles. These fires, which release toxic plumes for days, are often left to burn out, exposing residents to harmful chemicals such as dioxins, benzene, hydrogen cyanide, and VOCs. These fumes can cause severe health issues, including cancer, nervous system disorders, and respiratory diseases, especially in vulnerable populations.*

4. *Proximity to Schools: The location is dangerously close to several schools and childcare centres, all within approximately 2 kilometers. This raises serious concerns for the health and safety of children in the event of a fire, explosion, or filtration failure.*

5. *Traffic Impacts: Increased heavy vehicle traffic will result in noise and air pollution, road degradation, and potential wildlife fatalities, while also raising the risk of accidents.*

6. *Worker Traffic: The influx of light vehicles from workers will exacerbate noise, dust, and vibrations, further impacting nearby residents.*

7. *Wildlife Disruption: The potential for damage to local wildlife and their habitats is extensive and unacceptable.*

8. *Human Rights Violation: Access to a clean, healthy, and sustainable environment is a basic human right. Recent legislative changes emphasize the government's obligation to prevent harm and ensure citizens have access to safe water, clean air, and a healthy ecosystem. This proposal undermines these rights.*

9. *Property Devaluation and Psychological Impact: The enormous proposed structures, comparable in size to Bunnings stores, will lack sufficient buffer zones for nearby residents. This will likely devalue property and negatively impact mental health due to stress and reduced enjoyment of homes.*



10. *Inadequate Safety Buffer: Being just 200m from residential homes, 50m from the Garvan Institute, and 10m from key riparian zones is unacceptable. This location is simply too close to critical areas.*

The risks are far too significant to justify this project. No reasonable person would feel safe living next to this facility. This is not the right site – plain and simple.
