



NAME REDACTED

OBJECT

Submission ID: 215110

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 8:58:34 PM

As someone deeply connected to the Southern Highlands who is raising their family here I am invested in the well-being of this community, I strongly oppose the proposed plastic recycling refinery in Moss Vale for the following reasons:

- 1. Health and Environmental Threats: Plasrefine presents a significant danger to the health and safety of local residents and our environment.*
- 2. Risk to Drinking Water: The proposed facility jeopardizes Sydney and Goulburn's drinking water supply. Contaminated runoff containing microplastics could enter the Wingecarribee River, which feeds into the Warragamba Dam. The long-term health implications of microplastics may not yet be fully understood, but the potential for serious medical issues—especially if filtration systems fail—is undeniable.*
- 3. Insufficient Emergency Response Capacity: The local fire services are ill-equipped to handle the kind of catastrophic fires these facilities are prone to. Moss Vale's fire station is unmanned and volunteer-operated, with only one truck. Across the Southern Highlands, there are just four trucks and one hazmat vehicle, with additional support at least 45-50 minutes away in Goulburn, Campbelltown, or Shellharbour. Fires at similar facilities often reach extreme temperatures of 1,000°C, requiring dozens of firefighters, numerous pump trucks, and hazmat vehicles, yet these resources often prove insufficient. Such fires release toxic plumes for days, endangering residents with hazardous chemicals like dioxins, benzene, and hydrogen cyanide, which have been linked to cancers, respiratory diseases, and nervous system disorders.*
- 4. Proximity to Schools: The facility would be alarmingly close to schools and childcare centers—many within 2 kilometers. This raises serious concerns about the safety of children in the event of a fire, explosion, or filtration failure.*
- 5. Increased Heavy Traffic: The project will dramatically increase heavy vehicle traffic, leading to noise and air pollution, road degradation, and risks to wildlife.*
- 6. Worker Traffic Impact: Increased light vehicle traffic from workers entering and leaving the site will further contribute to noise, dust, and vibration, negatively impacting residents.*
- 7. Harm to Wildlife: The potential for devastating damage to local wildlife and their habitats is immense.*
- 8. Human Rights Implications: Everyone has the right to a clean, healthy, and sustainable environment. Recent legislation underscores the government's responsibility to ensure safe air, water, and ecosystems. Allowing this proposal would blatantly undermine those rights.*
- 9. Impact on Property Values and Mental Health: The massive size of the proposed buildings—comparable to Bunnings warehouses—and their proximity to homes, with no adequate buffer zone, will likely devalue property and cause significant stress for nearby residents, potentially leading to mental health issues.*
- 10. Safety Concerns: The facility's proximity to residential homes (200m), the Garvan Institute (50m), and critical riparian zones (10m) is dangerously close and completely inappropriate.*



New South Wales Government
Independent Planning Commission

The risks associated with this proposal far outweigh any potential benefits. This is not the right site for such a facility, and it is unacceptable to expect anyone to live next to it. The community deserves better.
