

NAME REDACTED		OBJECT	Submission ID: 215706
Organisation:	N/A	Key issues:	Social impacts, Visual impacts, design and landscaping, Land use compatibility (surrounding land uses), Traffic
Location:	New South Wales 2576		
Attachment:	N/A		

Submission date: 11/19/2024 1:21:10 PM

Submission Against the Proposed Plastic Recycling Development

As a member of the community, I firmly oppose the proposed development to convert plastics into flakes, pellets, and resins, set to operate 24/7. While I recognize the importance of recycling plastics as part of Australia's National Waste Policy, the proposed facility raises significant concerns in several key areas:

Environmental Impacts

The recycling process for plastics often involves harmful byproducts, including emissions of toxic chemicals such as volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and microplastics. These substances can contaminate air, water, and soil, posing severe risks to local ecosystems. The 24/7 operation compounds this issue, as continuous activity heightens the likelihood of environmental degradation.

2. Health Risks to the Community

Facilities processing plastics have a documented history of emitting pollutants that adversely affect public health. Exposure to these pollutants can lead to respiratory issues, skin irritation, and even long-term diseases such as cancer. Establishing this facility in a residential area puts the well-being of families, children, and vulnerable populations at risk.

3. Noise and Light Pollution

Operating 24/7 means constant machinery noise and bright lights throughout the night. This will disrupt the peace of the community, affecting residents' sleep and overall quality of life.

4. Traffic and Infrastructure Strain

The movement of raw materials and finished products will significantly increase heavy vehicle traffic in the area. This not only adds wear and tear to local roads but also raises safety concerns for pedestrians and drivers alike.

5. Lack of Transparency and Community Involvement

Many residents feel that there has been insufficient consultation about the proposed development. Decisions that significantly impact the environment and community should be made with full transparency and active engagement with all stakeholders.

6. Better Alternatives

While recycling plastics is a crucial part of managing waste, the focus should shift towards reducing plastic production and promoting sustainable alternatives. Investment in upstream solutions such as reusable materials, public awareness campaigns, and more eco-friendly practices will address the root of the plastic waste problem rather than its symptoms.

In conclusion, the proposed development poses unacceptable risks to the environment, community health, and quality of life. While recycling plastics is essential, this facility's potential harm outweighs its benefits. I urge decision-makers to reject this proposal and prioritize sustainable and community-centered solutions to waste



management.