



NAME REDACTED

OBJECT

Submission ID: 216663

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 2065	
Attachment: N/A	

Submission date: 11/21/2024 12:47:55 PM

I write to express my strong opposition to the establishment of the Moss Vale Plasrefine plastic recycling plant. The proposed facility raises significant concerns for the community, children, and the environment. These risks outweigh any potential benefits and necessitate a reconsideration of this project.

1. Community Health Risks

The operation of a plastic recycling plant involves processing highly potent, dangerous materials that can release harmful pollutants, including:

- Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs): These are known to contribute to respiratory and cardiovascular issues, particularly in vulnerable populations.*
- Toxic emissions: The potential release of microplastics and other particulate matter during processing could lead to long-term health effects. The Southern Highlands is home to thousands of innocent children that will see the pollutes from the centre spread to the air they breathe, including waterways and also the residing farm land, also impacting the food we eat.*
- Wastewater contamination: Improper handling of chemical by-products could seep into local water systems, threatening both human health and the region's water quality.*

2. Risks to Children and Schools

There are day care centres in close proximity, one of which my child currently attends in Moss Vale. We do not have the option to change centres as the government has not currently addressed the child care crisis currently impacting the Southern Highlands. Our children are especially vulnerable to environmental toxins due to their developing respiratory and immune systems. The proximity of this plant to schools, childcare centers, and playgrounds amplifies the risks:

- airborne pollutants could exacerbate asthma, allergies, and other chronic conditions*
- noise pollution from the plant's operations may disrupt learning environments*
- transportation of plastics and waste materials through Moss Vale and surrounding areas will increase traffic hazards, particularly near schools.*

3. Environmental Concerns

Moss Vale and the surrounding region are known for their natural beauty and unique biodiversity. The Southern Highlands is home to thousands of examples of native flora - much of it unique to the Highlands - which can be found in the bushland, forests and wilderness areas. The Community, the Council are known for trying to preserve this unique heritage. The area also abounds in colourful native birds and animals including kangaroos and wallabies, wombats that live in adjoining creeks and burrows, even Koalas and platypus (known to frequent areas close to the proposed site).

The plant poses several environmental risks:

- Air pollution: Emissions from processing and transportation could degrade local air quality.*



- *Water pollution: Runoff from the facility or accidental leaks could affect nearby waterways and ecosystems.*
- *Habitat disruption: Increased industrial activity may negatively impact local wildlife, particularly sensitive species in the region.*

Furthermore, there is a lack of clarity on how the plant intends to manage residual plastic waste and ensure the safe handling of by-products. I

4. Inconsistencies with Local Values

Moss Vale is a community deeply rooted in sustainability and environmental stewardship. Hosting a plastic recycling plant with significant risks contradicts these values. Residents have worked hard to protect the area's unique character, which could be compromised by heavy industry.

5. Lack of Transparency and Community Consultation

To date, there has been inadequate transparency about:

- *The technologies and processes the plant will employ.*
- *The projected emissions and their mitigation.*
- *Long-term contingency plans for accidents or spills.*

It is essential that the government look for other solutions.

While the concept of a plastic recycling plant may seem aligned with sustainability, the proposed Moss Vale facility introduces unacceptable risks to public health, child safety, and the environment. I urge decision-makers to prioritize the well-being of the Moss Vale community and reject this proposal.

Thank you for considering this submission and i hope the government will appropriately oppose this devastating development.
