



NAME REDACTED

OBJECT

Submission ID: 216872

Organisation: N/A	Key issues: <i>Social impacts, Visual impacts, design and landscaping, Land use compatibility (surrounding land uses), Traffic, Other issues</i>
Location: Redacted	
Attachment: N/A	

Submission date: 11/21/2024 9:57:54 PM

Hello, my name is [REDACTED], and my family have lived in the area for over 40 years. I am particularly disturbed by the plans to create a plastic recycling facility in this area. While I applaud the project concept, as it is something we desperately need in this state, I am deeply disturbed by the plans to build it in this location for the following reasons:

The proposed facility is in close proximity to pristine waterways of the Wingecarribee River and Bushland.

The impact it will have on the local wildlife and the environment.

- There will be health risks to the residents of the town of Moss Vale and the wider Southern Highlands communities.

There will be a negative impact on tourism to the area and therefore weaken the local economy.

As a business owner in the packaging industry, I am well aware of how plastic degrades over time, producing millions of microplastics which then leach into landfill, waterways, soil and finally our bodies.

The plastic production and recycling situation in Australia is currently at a crisis point and a facility is desperately needed, but please think very carefully where this plant should go. The picturesque town of Moss Vale is the least suitable place I can think of, where the microplastics leached by this plant would lead to serious contamination of the Wingecarribee River feeding into the water supply for greater metropolitan Sydney. Not to mention the wildlife in the region, who live in those waterways, including the unique and iconic monotreme, the Australian Platypus.

When plastics are broken down they leach poisonous chemicals such as:

- Benzene and other carcinogens
- Dioxins and furans
- Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs)
- Per- and polyfluorinated substances (PFAS)
- Phthalates
- Toxic metals
- BFRs
- Poly-aromatic hydrocarbons
- Pesticides

There is no buffer between this proposed heavy industrial development and the community. It's only 150 meters away from residential homes, an area shared by farmland where cattle graze.

The site is located near a waterway that flows into the Wingecarribee River. Rainwater runoff or accidents would impact the water supply to adjacent agricultural land and wildlife habitats.



*It's important to note that the another issue of concern is the increase in heavy traffic. The volume of trucks and support vehicles travelling to and from this site will significantly impact traffic congestion, along roads that are already struggling to cope at peak times. Not to mention the added air and noise pollution of around 100 truck movements per day.*

*Google maps tells you that the fastest route from the south to the proposed site will take heavy vehicles through Sutton Forest and into Moss Vale via the Illawarra Highway, past vineyards, residential homes and schools. This is not ok.*

*Plasrefine have promised to direct trucks via an alternate route - but who monitors and enforces these traffic restrictions?*

*Tourism supports many local businesses across the region and is a fundamental component of the local economy. Any negative impact such as toxic contamination, heavy vehicle traffic and noise & air pollution will drive visitors away and damage our regional economy.*

*Please know that I am in favour of plastic recycling and reprocessing â€œ there is an urgent need to increase our capacity to cope with the volume of plastic waste we generate.*

*However, there must be a more suitable location for the country's largest Plastics reprocessing plant. Similar facilities in regional areas such as Parkes & Albury have been developed in sympathy with the local communities, alongside buffer zones to ensure the health and safety of residents and the local environment.*

*Respected IPC Members, I implore you to overturn the decision made by the DPHI with their approval of this development. Moss Vale is not the right location for this project.*

*It may be an easy solution to the Plastics reprocessing shortfall but it's the WRONG decision, one that will do irreparable damage to a thriving regional community, the impact of which will send shock waves through this region for many years to come.*

*Thank you.*

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