



GREG CHAPMAN

OBJECT

Submission ID: 216942

Organisation: N/A	Key issues: <i>Social impacts, Land use compatibility (surrounding land uses), Traffic, Other issues</i>
Location: New South Wales 2577	
Attachment: N/A	

Submission date: 11/22/2024 8:22:56 AM

Plasrefine declined an invitation from the local member of State Parliament, Wendy Tuckerman MP, to explore other possible sites in the area. This reflects their determination to go ahead with a site that is not appropriate for the type and level of use outlined in their proposal.

Plasrefine has chosen to ignore that the distance of other plastic refining facilities in NSW from local residential communities depends on the size of the facility and the scale of operations. Wingecarribee Shire Councillor, Rachel Russell, has found that, on a comparative basis,

Plasrefine should be at least 9.5 kilometres from a town such as Moss Vale.

Plasrefine proposes taking millions of litres from the local water supply and pumping millions of litres of waste back into the local water tables. They are endangering the populations of all those who access this water including people from Moss Vale, the Southern Highlands and the Greater Sydney Region.

Plasrefine proposes thousands of truck (and employee car) journeys a month along quiet suburban and semi-rural roads without any consideration of existing usage patterns and capacity. Local residents will carry the costs in terms of noise pollution, air pollution and road maintenance. Unsurprisingly, Plasrefine has not offered to share profits but has offered to plant a few trees.

Sam Jones made the point that "any organization that recommends people stay indoors on windy days to avoid contamination is clearly out of step with community expectations and with health and environmental standards". I'd add that this recommendation from Plasrefine:

- *makes a mockery of the local residents' health, their children's health and the viability of local businesses, many of which rely on tourism and things like clean air and clean water*
- *fails to acknowledge that, for at least four months each year, Moss Vale experiences fast moving winds and very fast moving wind gusts*
- *gives the lie to Plasrefine's continuing assertion that they will meet all health and environmental regulations but, rather, highlights their lack of interest in these regulations and their lack of care for the local community and the environment.*

Plasrefine has chosen not to recognise and address widespread community concerns. Rather, they have asserted that everything will be alright and that the 'silent majority' in the Southern Highlands is on their side. This is spin - plain and simple.

In three years, my wife and I have not met one person in favour of the Plasrefine proposal. Rather, there is widespread horror at the environment impact and degradation foreshadowed by a proposal that is totally unsuited to the intended site.

Further, Plasrefine's attempt to downplay the degree of local opposition should not allow them to continue to sidestep the health and environmental concerns that have been rightly raised and which they have failed to address.



In the past, the Independent Planning Commission overturned a proposal in Goulburn on the grounds that it endangered the Sydney Water Supply. The Plasrefine proposal raises the same red flag and residents of Moss Vale, the Southern Highlands and the Greater Sydney Region look forward to a similar conclusion being reached by members of the Commission.

The Commission should not approve the Plasrefine proposal and, instead, it should urge the company to work with the Hon Wendy Tuckerman MP and members of Wingecarribee Shire Council to find a more appropriate site given the scope of their intended enterprise and give more careful consideration to the health and environmental safeguards attached to any future proposal.
