



JOHN MARKS

OBJECT

Submission ID: 217787

Organisation: N/A	Key issues: <i>Social impacts, Land use compatibility (surrounding land uses)</i>
Location: <i>New South Wales 2579</i>	
Attachment: N/A	

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Commissioners.

I am opposed to the approval of the PlasRefine plastics recycling factory as it seems to have been sited in the wrong place. From what I have learnt in video footage of the speakers at the Bowral Town Hall, and in further research, it seems that an industry such as plastics recycling and storage has an international track record of catastrophic fires and plastics pollution in the environment so should not be placed so near to major settlements. This type of industry should be sited in a heavy industrial zone, well away from residential areas because of the health risks associated with potential pollution of the air, water and chemicals caused by the heat treatment of plastics.

The zoning seems inappropriate in the S.H.I.P. as it was meant for light and innovative technologies, like the Mouse House. I am certain Council didn't create this space thinking that a massive plastics recycling factory would apply to develop their hazardous industry there.

Other submissions from doctors' groups indicate that we already know what health impacts come from ingesting microplastics, not only on the current generation, but on the next generation which will suffer from endocrine disorders. So if it is easy to ingest plastic flakes because it electrically bonds with water molecules in the water we drink and in the air we and the food we grow and eat, then it is obviously going to affect a lot of Highlands residents, especially those living right next to the factory who thought they had bought a clean and quiet lifestyle in Moss Vale.

There is a justice issue here. If people bought houses next to a heavy and hazardous industry, then they have no right to complain about other heavy industry moving in nearby.

However, this is not the case here. The residents were here first, some for a substantial amount of time.

PlasRefine, on the other hand, could have chosen a more suitable site in the first place to reflect its hazardous activities and potential impact on the local community. And it still has the option to move its proposal to another site away from Sydney's water catchment area and on a rail line where it doesn't cause traffic and road maintenance issues.

It is not fair to ask a whole community to upstake and find another place in which to settle where they will feel safer from the 'invisible' enemy. Many of the nearby residents have young children and health research tells us that young bodies absorb a higher percentage of toxins per body weight than adults. So I understand why so many young families are distressed and nearby early childhood centres are worried for their businesses.

Please consider the health and well-being of the locally affected community before company profits.

It is what we have Planning Departments for, surely!?

Thankyou for the opportunity to submit my objections to this proposal, totally unfit for purpose on this site.

John Marks
