



JOSHUA SLOSS

OBJECT

Submission ID: 218533

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

Submission date: 11/25/2024 4:57:23 PM

To the Independent Planning Commission,

I am Joshua Sloss a local resident and small business owner. Today I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed Plasrefine Plastics Recycling Facility in Moss Vale.

As a father of a [REDACTED] daughter and a resident living within 800 metres of the proposed site, I am deeply concerned about the impacts this industrial-scale development would have on our community's safety, health, and future.

While I understand the need for plastic recycling, I believe putting Australia's largest plastic recycling facility in our neighbourhood would be a terrible mistake. My family, like many others, chose Moss Vale because it gave us the opportunity for a large backyard to raise our family in a clean, safe environment. The proposed facility threatens to change all of that.

I have three key concerns

1. Proximity to residential areas filled with young families and children
2. The environmental impact on local wildlife and native flora
3. Traffic along residential roads.

My first objection is how close this facility would be to where our children live and play. There are several schools and childcare centres within a 2-kilometre radius of the site. My daughter is just [REDACTED] and loves to play outside in the backyard. Plasrefine themselves have made the comment to stay indoors to avoid air pollutants on days of strong winds (winds above 70km/h are fairly common in this area). There are many other young families in our neighborhood that share the same concerns.

As a parent, I am deeply troubled by the potential exposure to industrial processes, increased pollution, and the long-term health risks for our community's youngest members. Even Plasrefine's own consultants acknowledge that doors would need to be open for up to five hours daily, with admitted risks of microplastics escaping during operations. This time has been challenged and I find it concerning the applicant is so quick to change their answer and dismiss their own calculations they previously used to come up with the 5 hour approximate.

The environmental risks are just as worrying. The facility would sit only 10 metres from streams that flow into the Wingecarribee River. These waterways are home to platypus colonies that are already endangered. Once these waters are contaminated with pollutants and microplastics, there's no going back. The damage to our local wildlife would be permanent.

The traffic impact would be enormous. We'd see a huge increase in heavy trucks on our local roads, bringing noise, dust, and safety risks. Although these trucks would be given the route to plasrefine that enters of douglas road the there would almost certainly be an increase in local traffic from workers along the residential roads coming and going from the facility each day. I doubt anyone actually travelling to the address will be using anything other than the google maps or other sat nav route which currently sends drivers through the residential areas and up Beaconsfield road.



If this development were to go ahead would there be a way to enforce the use of the entrance off Douglas road for all traffic to the side? If not this proposal would make our roads more dangerous for everyone, especially children walking to school or families out cycling or jogging. They would also damage our roads putting the financial burden on local rate payers to keep the nearby residential road surfaces in a suitable condition.

The Southern Highlands is a tourist hotspot. Famous for its natural beauty, wineries, and tourism. People come here to enjoy our clean air, visit our cafes, and experience country town life. The proposed facility would be right near our train station, local businesses, and parks. The Southern Highlands' reputation as a premium tourist destination should not be sacrificed for industrial development that could be better situated elsewhere. This isn't the right place for such a large industrial facility.

This development would also make our housing crisis worse. Property values would likely fall, and developers would think twice about building new homes near a massive plastics plant. This means fewer housing options for young families who want to make Moss Vale their home, in an area where affordable housing is already hard to find.

While plastic recycling facilities are essential infrastructure, they belong in proper industrial areas, not near homes and certainly not next to streams where platypus live. The risks to our community's health, our environment, and our local economy are just too high.

I'm asking the Independent Planning Commission to please reject this proposal. The damage it would do to our community and our children's future isn't worth it. We need to protect what makes Moss Vale special - our clean environment, our safe streets, and our strong community spirit.

Thank you for taking the time to read my concerns.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Sloss
