



MEL CERVONARO

OBJECT

Submission ID: 217860

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 2577	
Attachment: N/A	

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I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed Plasrefine recycling centre in Moss Vale. I agree with many submissions already posted that it is not the right site, furthermore I believe that it is a futile, expensive and damaging project when you consider that the plastics will, after being recycled a couple of times (if that) end up in land fill, or in the land and water of our precious environment. Considering the amount of contamination and damage, recycling plastics creates in the environment and to human health, it is clearly not the answer to the plastics problem. Plastics production and consumption continues to rise, as the government fails to place enough pressure on industry to find better solutions, that aren't hazardous to health or the environment. Plasrefine is not the right site, nor is it a solution to the wider problem with plastic.

I have lived in the Southern Highlands for the majority of my life, and I have a very personal connection to the land, surrounding environment and the community. It deeply upsets me that the Government approval for this facility disregards and disrespects the local community by placing the compound so close to residential areas, child care centres and schools. This will have a tremendous social impact, many longstanding locals will move, land and property will devalue, there will be an unmanageable fire risk, increased air and noise pollution and loss of a healthy natural environment.

I live with MS, an autoimmune, neuro degenerative illness for which there is no cure. It is a basic human right to have access to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment, and I am certain that Plasrefine will compromise this access, not just for locals but far beyond. I live a clean lifestyle to help manage my MS, and part of my decision to live in Moss Vale, was its healthy and clean environment. Plasrefine will contaminate our water, air and land with plastic particles and toxic chemicals that have been linked to cancer, chronic illness, autoimmune conditions, hormone disruption and neuro degeneration. It is important to understand that the rise in autoimmune conditions, hormone disruption, reproductive abnormalities, neuro degenerative diseases and cancer is paralleled with the rise in plastic production, use and waste. Additionally, workers involved in plastic production and recycling have an increased risk of developing chronic health conditions, cancers, endocrine disruption and reproductive problems. In the past few decades, we have witnessed our children becoming sicker, diagnosed with chronic health problems, cancer and hormone abnormalities and at the same time the amount of unknown and unregulated toxins have been entering our environment on a scale never before seen. To think that Plasrefine will increase (on a very large scale) our children's exposure to forever chemicals such as PFAS, and other dangerous toxins, terrifies me as they are blatantly being denied safety in the environment where they grow and live. What does this say about us, what does this say about our leaders? I fear for our children's future in a world where a facility such as Plasrefine can be given the green light without consideration for the detrimental and irreversible health, environmental and social impacts.