



NAME REDACTED

OBJECT

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My name is [REDACTED]. As a young resident of the Southern Highlands, it is great that I can have some form of input in matters like this.

Building a plastics recycling facility like Plasrefine in our community might sound like a good idea, but as a teenager thinking about the future, I can't support it. Recycling plastic is important, but facilities like this often bring serious environmental and health risks. For one, these plants could potentially release harmful chemicals into the air and water, affecting native wildlife and the health of families nearby.

Because I was so worried and terrified that this plan might go ahead, that I visited the planned construction site, and as we drove down the road, I noticed all the houses and small farms along the way. I can't believe the DPHI would even consider recommend building a humongous, ugly, eye-sawing, disgusting, environment ruining factory so close to these homes. I feel bad for the people who might have to live so close to Plasrefine and wondered if these properties would get devalued because of this site. I saw daycares and childcare facilities located quite close to the proposed site and if I was an owner of these facilities, I would feel terrible because I would have no business after Plasrefine gets built. No parent would want their child playing, learning and growing up next to this monstrosity.

Another reason Plasrefine shouldn't be built because it could ruin the environment where teenagers like me play sports and stay active. Recycling facilities can release potential pollutants into the air, which can likely lead to poor air quality. Imagine trying to play soccer, footy, tennis, hockey or run track with toxic fumes hanging over the field how could we be expected to give our best when we're coughing and struggling to breathe? For a lot of us, sports are an escape from stress, but if Plasrefine gets built, our fields, parks, and courts could very possibly turn into places where we worry about our health instead of enjoying the game. We need clean, safe spaces to grow and thrive, not more pollution.

Building Plasrefine in the Southern Highlands would be a disaster for the region's unique native animals. This area is home to incredible species like koalas, wombats, platypus's and owls, which are already struggling due to habitat loss. A facility like this could possibly worsen the problem by releasing pollutants into the air and waterways. Chemicals from the recycling plant could contaminate nearby rivers and creeks (such as the Wingacarabee River), poisoning fish and other aquatic life that many animals rely on for food. Noise and light pollution from the facility would also disrupt nocturnal animals like possums and owls, making it harder for them to hunt or breed. Once these species are gone, they're gone forever, and the Southern Highlands will lose the natural beauty and biodiversity that make it so special. We owe it to these animals to protect their home, not destroy it with industrial projects like Plasrefine.

If Plasrefine is built, the roads in the Southern Highlands will suffer from the constant flow of trucks bringing in plastic every single day. These heavy vehicles could cause increased traffic congestion, making it harder for locals to get to school, work, or even just enjoy a peaceful drive through the region. The wear and tear on the roads from so many trucks might lead to more potholes and cracks, creating dangerous driving conditions and costing taxpayers millions in repairs. Not to mention, the noise from trucks rumbling through town at all hours would disrupt the quiet, rural charm the Southern Highlands is known for. Worse, the risk of accidents could go up with so many large vehicles on the road, putting lives at risk. The Southern Highlands deserves better than to become a truck route for plastic waste it's a community, not an industrial dumping ground.



Putting Plasrefine in the Southern Highlands would be a completely stupid decision. This area is known for its natural beauty, quiet lifestyle, and vibrant local community not for hosting industrial waste facilities. Why ruin a region that people visit for its stunning landscapes and clean environment by bringing in trucks full of plastic and a facility pumping out pollution? It's like building a landfill in the middle of a national park it just doesn't make sense. The Southern Highlands isn't equipped to handle the noise, traffic, and environmental damage that a plant like Plasrefine could cause. Surely there are better places for this kind of facility, far away from communities and natural habitats (don't expect us to tell you where this would be because that is DPHI's job, not ours). Choosing the Highlands for this project shows zero respect for the people, wildlife, and environment that make this area so special.

My life in the Southern Highlands is amazing (without Plasrefine in my backyard ☹️). I can play sport, be outside, be active, socialise and feel happy and safe in the environment I am doing those things in. I feel as though if this site gets approved, it will be taking away from a lot of the things the community and myself love and treasure. I truly wish I was a part of the NSW independent planning commission because I would be able to keep the animals, the environment and my beautiful community safe by not approving this site. I hope you have gotten a glimpse of what of a kid living in the Southern Highlands wants for our future. Thank you, I trust that you will do the right thing for our beautiful community and my future.

Now please read my acrostic poem I took a lot of time to write:

P-ollution will increase, choking our clean air.

L-ocal wildlife will suffer, their homes beyond repair.

A-ctive sports fields will no longer feel the same.

S-outhern Highlands' beauty tarnished in Plasrefine's name.

R-oads will crumble from endless truckloads each day.

E-nvironmental risks grow, no matter what they say.

F-amilies nearby will face noise and stress.

I-ndustry profits, but our community gets less.

N-ature deserves care, not plastic waste heaps.

E-cosystems collapse, and the damage runs deep.
