

NAME REDACTED		OBJECT	Submission ID: 217984
Organisation:	N/A	Key issues:	Social impacts, Visual impacts, design and landscaping, Land use compatibility (surrounding land uses), Traffic, Other issues
Location:	Redacted		
Attachment:	N/A		

Submission date: 11/25/2024 8:42:35 AM

I write to voice my opposition to the proposed Plasrefine plastic recycling plant.

I am a qualified pharmacist and as such I am aware of the dangers posed by microplastic pollutants. I have also had a 35 year career in the food industry, with a sustainably farmed vegetable garden and orchard in Burradoo, in almost direct line of site to the north east of the proposed factory. I have shared my cooking and gardening knowledge on prime time television on Channel 9s Burkes Backyard and What's Cooking throughout the 1990s and early 2000's. Growing for the table, we know that good produce requires the input of many things: nitrogen, phosphorous, minerals and clean water. But just as our food absorbs the "good" things, it can also absorb unwanted chemicals, which is why sustainable farming practices look to organics to get it right.

My concern is that the well known westerly winds that howl across the Wingecarribee River flats will bring pollutants from the plastic recycling factory, dump these microplastics on my farm (and those of my surrounding neighbours) and become incorporated into the fruits and vegetables I proudly grow in the best way I can. Forever chemicals. I am also concerned that water used in the recycling process may contaminate the local waterways, including the groundwater which we use to water our orchard.

I moved to this farm in 1994 precisely because it was in a beautiful, unpolluted rural district with fertile soil and high rainfall. 30 years later, it still retains those qualities. I've brought up a family here, our adult kids visit often and love that this wonderful environment has been theirs to enjoy their whole life. Especially fresh apples and veggies we enjoy together. We would hate to have to move somewhere else because of a hazardous industry being built just across the river posing a risk to our health and well-being.

We oppose this development and suggest that it be moved to a more appropriate location, away from the river and farming community where it will be right in the middle. We all want to reduce our impact on the planet's resources and reduce our plastic use and recycle what we must. But solving one problem should not create another for the people who already live here.

Please reject this proposal and suggest that be set up in a more appropriate location for hazardous industry where it will be a decent distance from schools, communities and farms and not be a threat to waterways.