



NAME REDACTED

OBJECT

Submission ID: 218306

Organisation: N/A	Key issues: Social impacts, Traffic, Other issues
Location: New South Wales 2575	
Attachment: N/A	

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Our family moved from Sydney to the Southern Highlands 2 years ago to enjoy the benefits of life in a rural location. This area is known for its picturesque landscapes, historic towns and healthy natural environment, far away from pollution and heavy industry.

Our foremost concern is our child who currently attends [REDACTED], which is 3kms away from the proposed development. The students and staff at this college will be directly affected by the proximity of this plant and this poses an unacceptable risk. The potential for microplastics and emission of other substances into the surrounding environment, as well as odour, noise and vibration and overriding risk of fire is too significant for this particular area.

It is concerning that the Dept of Planning, Housing & Infrastructures' report (dated Oct 2024) diminishes the social and environmental impact on this area, with the building of a facility of this size and type. It appears that the negative impacts on the residents of this area and environment are being essentially disregarded in lieu of financial benefits to the government and the company proposing the plant. While the building of plastic recycling facilities is important, there are better locations than Moss Vale that are not as close to residential areas and not in a rural setting of this type. Even if the land has been zoned industrial, this particular facility will negatively impact on this community for generations to come.

The recommendations made in the report do not adequately minimise the negative impacts, which have been raised over and over again by the community. In the haste to build this recycling facility, the community's interests and opinions are being essentially minimised and ignored.

The report seems to reflect that all the negative impacts raised previously in relation to this facility on the environment and community can be somehow be managed and mitigated with superficial solutions that ignore the overriding fact that this facility could be built in 100 other locations which would suit its purposes better.

For example, the community has raised the issue of increased traffic in this area and the proposed solution is to provide alternative routes however this solution is not adequate. The small townships of Berrima and Moss Vale (and Bowral) are picturesque villages visited by local and overseas tourists weekly. The income raised by local business owners from tourism is significant and the impact on these locations needs to be carefully considered and protected. These towns can barely cope with the traffic as is and this facility would add intolerable increases to traffic and noise. The roads are so narrow and already suffer regular damage. If our local council struggles to manage and repair our roads now, how would it cope with this added pressure. If building new, larger roads is the proposed solution, this will immeasurably change the quaint nature of our townships which is unacceptable.

For some reason, building this facility on Moss Vale's doorstep is perceived as a tolerable proposition. This proposal should never have reached this point. It is clear that the majority of the community disagree with it and the agencies involved with assessing the suitability of this proposal need to properly assess the impact this would have on our environment and the local community. The benefits of this development can be equally enjoyed in another more suitable location in a designated precinct that does not impact adversely on our townships and rural residents.

Judy Hannan, our local member, has opposed this development proposal citing that regional towns should not be the dumping ground for waste from the city.



New South Wales Government
Independent Planning Commission

Overall, this is an ill-considered proposal and if Plasrefine is passionate about helping reduce waste, it should be equally concerned about the lack of local community support and seek to build their facility in a location that is more suitable for its purposes.

It is sincerely hoped that the government agencies do the right thing by this area and relocate this facility to a more appropriate location. Moss Vale is not the right site!
