



SAM SEVIERI

OBJECT

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Organisation: N/A	Key issues: <i>Other issues</i>
Location: <i>New South Wales 2577</i>	
Attachment: N/A	

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My submission concerns the fire and bushfire safety impacts of this proposal on Moss Vale and surrounding areas. The proposed site is located within bush fire prone land, as noted by a search of NSW Rural Fire Service website and using their 'Bush Fire Prone Land Tool' (<https://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/plan-and-prepare/building-in-a-bush-fire-area/planning-for-bush-fire-protection/bush-fire-prone-land/check-bfpl>). Plastics recycling facilities are high risk industries with contaminants and chemicals that are volatile and vulnerable to fire. The industry peak body reports there are 12,000 fires in recycling facilities in Australia every year. If it proceeds, it is not a question of 'if' a fire occurs in the Plasrefine facility, but 'when'.

The NSW Government's 'Adapt NSW' website provides regional climate projections and information for public and government use through the NSW and Australian Regional Climate Modelling (NARClIM) project. NARClIM brings together globally recognised science and multidisciplinary expertise to deliver climate projections at a 4kms resolution across NSW. Using the NARClIM interactive climate projections map it is possible to view low and high emission scenarios for specific locations for periods 2020-2039, 2030-2049, 2040-2059 and onwards. Under a low-emissions (i.e. best case) scenario for the period 2020-2039, annual change in mean temperatures at the Plasrefine site are projected to increase by 0.8 degrees C; rainfall is projected to decrease by 7% annually; number of hot days (i.e. max temperatures over 35 degrees C or above) is projected to increase by 9.6 days annually; and severe fire weather days (i.e. where Forest Fire Index is over 50) are projected to increase by 2.1 days annually. To reiterate, these projections are based on a low emissions scenario (SSP1-2.6).

Placing such an industry in an area classified as bush fire prone and where the number of severe fire weather days is set to increase is not just foolhardy, but also dangerous and negligent and must surely leave both the operating company and NSW Government consent authorities open to litigation in the event of inevitable fire and damage to persons and/or property.