



NAME REDACTED	OBJECT	Submission ID: 210413
Organisation: N/A	Key issues: Social impacts, Visual impacts, design and landscaping, Land use compatibility (surrounding land uses), Traffic, Other issues	
Location: New South Wales 2576		
Attachment: N/A		

Submission date: 10/30/2024 3:32:42 PM

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express strong opposition to the proposed Plastics Reprocessing Facility in Moss Vale and the Southern Highlands. While waste management solutions are necessary, situating this industrial-scale facility in our community—a region centred around family, schools, and a vital tourism industry—is both irresponsible and harmful. The impact on residents, particularly children attending nearby schools, and the risk to our tourism-based economy are serious concerns that must be prioritised.

Health Risks and Air Quality Concerns

Plastics reprocessing facilities are known to emit toxins, including volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and harmful particulates. Children are particularly vulnerable to these pollutants, which can exacerbate respiratory issues, lead to developmental challenges, and increase asthma risk. Establishing such a facility near schools and homes in Moss Vale and the Southern Highlands exposes families to avoidable health risks. Our community deserves a safe and healthy environment, free from the hazards of industrial air pollutants.

Traffic and Safety Hazards

This facility would lead to a substantial increase in heavy truck traffic through Moss Vale and surrounding areas in the Southern Highlands. Our roads, infrastructure, and school zones are not suited to handle this industrial traffic. The safety and well-being of pedestrians, cyclists, and residents should not be compromised, and such risks are unacceptable in a family-oriented area like ours.

Environmental Impact on Our Pristine Region

The Southern Highlands is known for its beautiful landscapes, pristine environment, and biodiversity. Establishing a plastics reprocessing facility here brings significant risks of soil and water contamination and disrupts our natural ecosystems. Leaks, spills, or emissions from such an operation would have long-term, detrimental effects on the local flora and fauna, undermining the Southern Highlands' appeal as a beautiful, clean region.

Negative Impact on Tourism and Community Liveability

TOURISM IS THE BREAD AND BUTTER OF OUR COMMUNITY, with visitors flocking to experience the unique charm and natural beauty of the Southern Highlands. The presence of a heavy industrial facility would lower property values, create constant disruption, and impact the region's tranquillity. Our community deserves thoughtful urban planning that respects our values, supports our local economy, and puts residents' and visitors' needs above industrial expansion.

Alternative Locations Desperate for Jobs

There are numerous towns across New South Wales that would welcome the economic benefits of a facility like this. Many of these towns face high unemployment rates and are keen for industries that could provide stable jobs and rejuvenate their economies. Locating this facility in a more remote town, where residents are in greater need of employment and willing to travel for work, would be far more appropriate. This approach



would not only benefit these communities but also relieve the Southern Highlands and Moss Vale from bearing the impact of industrial-scale operations within a family-oriented and tourism-focused area.

Lack of Community Consultation and Dismissal of Alternative Sites

The limited consultation with the Southern Highlands community about this proposal is a major concern. A facility of this nature will have lasting impacts, and transparent, meaningful engagement with local residents is essential. Reprocessing is important, but it should not proceed at the expense of Moss Vale, the Southern Highlands, and our local way of life. Exploring alternative, more industrially suited locations that can benefit from such projects must be the priority.

In conclusion, we urge the authorities to reject this proposal and protect the health, safety, and future of Moss Vale and the Southern Highlands. Our community deserves sustainable, respectful planning to remain a vibrant, safe place to live, work, and visit. We are united in standing against any facility that would place heavy industry in the heart of our region's homes, schools, and tourism economy.

Thank you for listening to the voices and values of the Southern Highlands community.

Sincerely,

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Resident of the Southern Highlands
