



AINSLIE MCGLYNN

OBJECT

Submission ID: 213261

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 2577	
Attachment: N/A	

Submission date: 11/12/2024 11:20:23 AM

I am writing to express my strong objection to the recommended approval of the Plasrefine facility in Moss Vale. After careful review of the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure's (DPHI) assessment, I believe there are significant failures in the evaluation process that warrant rejection of this proposal.

INCORRECT CLAIMS BY ETHOS URBAN

Ethos Urban made the claim in their SIS that Moss Vale is a stagnant and ageing community. This is wrong. Their projections of an additional 20 residents per year in our SSA based on data from 2021 did NOT consider the post covid numbers of our population that now work from home, the rapidly growing population of young families who have moved to the area since then & the fact that median house prices have gone up by 45.5% in the last 5 years due to population growth and demand. Schools are bursting, day cares are at capacity with long wait lists and our recreational facilities are overflowing with children and young people. The location of this gargantuan waste project smackdab inside all this exciting hullaballo is wrong.

VISUAL IMPACTS

The social Impact to Moss Vale residents are mentally devastating. The structure of this "waste project" is COLOSSAL. Set to be 1 and a half times the size of the oval at the Melbourne Cricket Ground. The MCG oval is approximately 20,000 square metres, this waste project will take up 30,000 and tucked snugly within a picturesque, highlands rural and residential setting, on a riparian corridor, right by our water catchment, at least 16.5 metres high (when you include the stacks) and 150 metres from homes. The photo montages in the portal where the trees are superimposed across the northern border of the southern zone to illustrate what sight mitigation measures will look like, are at 10 years from now.

PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPACTS, NO HEALTH IMPACT ASSESSMENT CONDUCTED, ENVIRONMENT/HEALTH IMPACTS & UNKNOWN FUTURE

A lot of psychological damage can happen in 10 years. Will mechanical plastic recycling still be the order of the day? Do we find out greenwashing was a thing? What more will we learn about the dangers of micro-plastics? There's a lot of unknowns around Plasrefines longevity and to get sign off for a hazardous project this size, I thought there'd have to be a few more absolutes or at least an attempt at conducting a Health Impact Assessment. In any case, to accept that some trees will lessen Plasrefines visual impact are short sighted and out of touch.

FIRE RISK - ON FIRE PRONE LAND/STORAGE OF CHEMICALS ON SITE/TOO CLOSE TO RESIDENTS

When you look at other plastics recycling facilities, in Australia that convert collected plastics into reusable forms like flakes, pellets and resins like Plasrefine will do, there's a pattern. They're ALL located in appropriate Industrial areas with appropriate exclusion zones.

There have been 20 fires in plastics and reprocessing facilities in Australia since 2019. 74-76 Beaconsfield road, according to the NSW RFS, IS within a designated bush fire prone area. This information is valid and up to date. Contrary to the letter to the SEARS back in 2020, found on the portal, which states that it's not. We know that Plasrefine will be 5 times bigger than any plastics recycling plant in the country, 150 metres from homes & 50 metres from the irreplaceable Garvan. We know 20,000 tonnes of plastic waste will be stored on site along with



a "who knows" amount of undisclosed chemicals as well as a patented formula used to wash plastic materials using Tea tree oil, turps and 80% ethanol, we know it's in a wind tunnel and sitting on fire prone land. The fire safety plan stating that the few trucks across the entire Highlands (if available) would be enough to contain a fire before reinforcements could arrive is careless, dangerous and lacks seriousness. We deserve better.

OTHER CONCERNS

- Further degradation to our crumbling roads*
- Councils continuous proclamations that we don't have the water and waste water infrastructure to support this facility*
- The inability for local residents, especially those living metres away to peacefully enjoy their lives, free from anxiety, fear and disturbance.*
- The inability for people to sell their homes, the fact this enormous multiple stacked waste plant (despite the trees in 10 years) will be visible from some of our most popular & scenic vantage points.*
- The harm to our endangered platypus and water catchment*
- The indigenous significance and claims the sight is rich with vestige*
- The damage to the pillars of intergenerational equity the proposed location will cause. 140 jobs when up in running so Plasrefine predicts? But what about the hundreds of jobs lost with the SHIP down the gurgler?*
- The growth, possibility, inspiration and economic bounty of this village stopped dead in its tracks because a foreign investor saw an opportunity to strike.*

We will never accept this proposal for the Southern Highlands & we will never abide by a process that deliberately disenfranchises what we know to be right for our community. The assessments conducted by DPHI were sloppy, out of touch and incorrect. This is a high risk, hazardous manufacturing factory which will rip the heart out of our community & the Sydney water drinking catchment.

Not the right site.
