



HELEN GREER

OBJECT

Submission ID: 213461

Organisation: N/A	Key issues: <i>Social impacts, Visual impacts, design and landscaping, Land use compatibility (surrounding land uses), Other issues</i>
Location: New South Wales 2575	
Attachment: N/A	

Submission date: 11/13/2024 7:46:09 AM

Who would have thought that a plastics recycling facility has so many implications for the health of water, the environment, humans and animals?...that is, until one is coming to a town near you.

Now that I have informed myself, I will be avoiding plastic wherever possible.

State Government should be involved in stopping single - use plastic from entering the supply chain. And NSW should follow the ACT and consider a bill to enshrine the human right to a healthy environment. (ACT Human Rights [Healthy Environment] Bill 2023.)

My objections to the heavy industry Plasrefine facility at the Moss Vale site are as follows:

- 1. Proximity to residential areas, schools and childcare centres;*
- 2. Close proximity to riparian zones. High risk of microplastics entering the Sydney water supply via the creeks entering the Wingecarribee River, feeding into Warragamba. The National Health and Medical Research Council has released new drinking water guidelines recommending fewer Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl substances in our drinking water in Australia;*
- 3. Risk of harm to local residents (especially the elderly, school children and younger children in childcare) from any malfunction of the factory. Such as air pollution (volatile organic compounds, hazardous toxins etc.) from the stacks; fire, which is a common occurrence in plastic refinery facilities - (already 19 serious fire events in similar facilities in Australia since 2019) likely to release VOCs, carbon monoxide, chlorine, cyanide, hydrogen cyanide, benzene and dioxides into the atmosphere;*
- 4. Lack of sufficient fire fighting ability in the Southern Highlands to quickly address the above likely disaster.*
- 5. Destruction of habitat of several endangered or vulnerable species: microbat, platypus, large bent-winged bat, southern myotis;*
- 6. Bio-diversity loss affecting the above creatures and also koalas, birds, insects, reptiles, and other marsupials, the removal of tableland swamp meadows;*
- 7. Location in the Southern Highlands Innovation Park. The Plasrefine facility is entirely incompatible with the research and bio-tech light industries that Wingecarribee Shire is hoping to attract. The Garvan Institute (50 metres from the proposed Plasrefine site) could be very negatively impacted in conducting its highly sensitive research projects;*
- 8. Large volumes of traffic including heavy goods vehicles will affect local residents and possibly also the sensitive research facilities in the area;*

Thank you for taking the time to read my submission.

I hope we can legislate to prevent plastics even entering our lives ASAP.