



JULIAN BEAUMONT

OBJECT

Submission ID: 212516

Organisation: N/A	Key issues: <i>Social impacts, Visual impacts, design and landscaping, Land use compatibility (surrounding land uses), Traffic</i>
Location: New South Wales 2576	
Attachment: N/A	

Submission date: 11/8/2024 2:59:57 PM

Dear Commissioners

My wife and I are long term residents of the Southern Highlands, an area of outstanding natural beauty and resources. Over nearly 40 years we have witnessed an understandable increase in housing, in traffic and all the many impacts of more people wishing to live in such a place. We have never objected to these additional burdens because it is a natural consequence of population growth and the desire of people to decentralise from major cities. The point is that with every increment of housing and traffic, there has been a commensurate response in infrastructure and facility, without compromising the essential elements that make the Southern Highland unique - clean air, clean water, an amiable populace with a justified pride in the area.

The ill-advised PLASREFINE proposal threatens to destroy all of those unique elements in a single stroke of the pen, ruin the lives of thousands of residents and endanger the health of thousands more through the air and water borne toxic micro particles emanating from this plant.

We have attended the public meetings in Bowral, at which your diligent attendance was noted and greatly appreciated. You will have heard, as we did, all of the cogent and emphatic arguments against this proposal, so I don't propose to reiterate them all in detail here, save only to underline the insanity of

1 placing heavy industry in an area intended for research and light industry;

2 locating such a facility in an essentially residential precinct with houses, schools and day care nearby;

3 locating a facility that produces toxic waste within the Sydney water catchment, near an important natural watercourse that flows to the main drinking supply of Greater Sydney.

4 increasing the load on already over used local roads with multiple daily truckloads and causing truck banking in residential areas;

5 not providing adequate fire and hazard response to what would be an extremely dangerous event if not very quickly controlled.

I could go on of course, but I know you have had all of these arguments placed before you before. Please allow me therefore simply to say that while the vast majority of residents in the Southern Highlands take seriously their individual and collective responsibilities for a better environment, we are also deeply concerned that this proposal is being foisted on the area by a State Government that is desperately keen to get some green credentials on board, but without properly considering that the proper location for such a facility is where residences are sparse, where proper cleansing facilities can be carried out on site in large washing ponds, and not using the public sewer, and where the clear dangers posed by such a facility are thus greatly mitigated. There are numerous areas along the same highway corridor that would answer the community and State needs more appropriately. We have been told that more suitable areas have been offered to the proponent, away from water courses, critically OUTSIDE the Sydney water catchment area, and close to a major highway.

Finally, while you have stated that you are not making a judgement about the proponent, I suggest that your consideration of the proposed plant cannot be properly concluded without also considering the lack of relevant experience and credentials of the plant's operators, since all of the dangers and concerns raised above are greatly multiplied with every lapse of operational control and management.



New South Wales Government
Independent Planning Commission

We urge you to reject the proposal in this location as unsound and inadvisable in every respect.

Sincerely

Julian Beaumont OAM
