

# Council stakeholder meeting – 505 Minmi Road, Fletcher

Gateway review for PP-2021-2262

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City of  
Newcastle

# Acknowledgement of Country

**We all sit on Awabakal and Worimi land  
'Niirun Yalawa Awabakal and Worimi burrei'**

City of Newcastle (CN) acknowledges its Local Government Area (LGA) sits within the Country of the Awabakal and Worimi peoples. We acknowledge that Country for Aboriginal peoples is an interconnected set of ancient relationships. We acknowledge the custodianship of the Awabakal and Worimi peoples and the care and stewardship they have performed in this place since time immemorial.

**Always was, always will be Aboriginal land  
'Wunyibu wunyibu warra wunyibu wunyibu kuumba  
Guuri burrai'**



- Background
- Gateway determination timeframe
- EPA recommendations
- Response to EPA submission
- Additional outstanding matters.

# Background

- The assessment of the proposal has been ongoing, since the Gateway Determination was issued in 2023, and
- CN has spent significant time and resources working with the proponent since this time.
- 26 May 2023 CN again requested further information to satisfy the outstanding conditions of Gateway Determination with a focus on land use efficiency and avoiding areas of the site with high environmental value.
- CN requested the proposal not proceed in January 2024 as the proponent had failed to satisfy conditions of Gateway determination

# EPA recommendations

- Submission raised a range of contamination issues (subsurface gas associated with SWMC landfill gas and coal mine workings).
- Assessments needed on noise and vibration, air quality and odor and contaminated land.
- Detailed investigation required given subsurface gas monitoring results.

# Response to EPA submission

## *Applicant*

- Did not consider further studies are required and refers to safety risks to existing residential development.
- Has since indicated intent to address matters but disputes timeframes.

## *CN response*

- Past approvals should not set precedence for future land use.
- The waste facility has a wider public benefit. It is important to CN and the Hunter region and meets State and Commonwealth waste and energy objectives.

# Contamination and subsurface gas

- The EPA's guidelines recommend between 6 and 12 monitoring events over two to 24 months
- capture the worst-case meteorological scenario.
- The guidelines note that because NSW has relatively infrequent, slow-moving weather systems compared with the UK, a longer period of monitoring for each risk setting is needed to capture the worst-case scenario.
- EHO recommend the applicant engage an auditor to review the PSI and DSI to ensure they adhere to the appropriate standards, procedures and guidelines

# Gateway determination timeframe

- Original timeframes were not met (to completed by 20 January 2024)
- Unresolved matters (biodiversity, flooding and proximity to the Summerhill Waste Management Centre) are impacting amended timeframes (completed by 23 November 2024 ).

# Additional outstanding matters

- Flooding – no hydrological assessment report as required by Condition 2 of the original gateway determination
- Biodiversity - application for biodiversity certification does not comply with section 6.4 of the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*.
- Other - Majority of submissions raised biodiversity and infrastructure concerns.

# Biodiversity



PTC



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1589 - Spotted Gum - Broad-leaved Mahogany - Grey Gum grass - shrub open forest on Coastal Lowlands of the Central Coast

1590 - Spotted Gum - Broad-leaved Mahogany - Red Ironbark shrubby open forest

1619 - Smooth-barked Apple - Red Bloodwood - Brown Stringybark - Hairpin Banksia heathy open forest of coastal lowlands