



BENJAMIN WILDING

OBJECT

Submission ID: 206797

Organisation: N/A	Key issues: <i>Social impacts, Visual impacts, design and landscaping, Land use compatibility (surrounding land uses), Traffic, Other issues</i>
Location: New South Wales 2577	
Attachment: N/A	

Submission date: 10/22/2024 11:43:19 AM

Dear Independent Planning Commission,

Vehement Objection to the Plasrefine Plant in Moss Vale

This heavy industrial development is a catastrophic misfit for the Southern Highlands, posing an unacceptable threat to our environment, economy, and way of life. The detrimental impacts of this proposal far outweigh any purported benefits, and we urge you to reject this ill-conceived project.

1. Environmental Destruction

The proposed site is situated in close proximity to the Wingecarribee River, a critical water supply for both the Southern Highlands and Sydney. The potential for plastic dust residue, contaminated wastewater runoff (estimated at 16,300 litres daily), and the release of harmful VOCs poses a severe threat to the ecosystem and public health. VOCs are known to cause respiratory diseases and other health complications.

Furthermore, the plant's operation will consume a staggering 46,300 litres of water each day, placing further strain on our precious water resources. The risk of plastic microparticles contaminating the Wingecarribee River and compromising the main water catchment area for Moss Vale and Sydney is unacceptable.

2. Traffic Chaos and Infrastructure Strain

Moss Vale already struggles with traffic congestion. An estimated 160-200 heavy truck movements per day would unleash chaos on our local roads, including narrow, scenic routes used by residents and tourists. This would lead to:

- Increased congestion and dangerous safety hazards, putting lives at risk.*
- Accelerated road deterioration, imposing higher maintenance costs on the community and diverting resources from essential services.*
- Noise pollution exceeding acceptable limits, with noise from 20-tonne trucks reaching over 80 dB in a predominantly rural residential area. This will disrupt homes, businesses, and the nearby Bioresources Australia facility, where noise above 60 dB is considered harmful to their operations.*

3. Economic Sabotage

This development directly contradicts the NSW Government's vision for the Southern Highlands Innovation Park (SHIP). The presence of a heavy industrial plant will deter innovative businesses, sabotaging the SHIP's potential and hindering economic growth.

4. Incompatibility with Local Planning and Zoning Regulations

The proposed location is wholly unsuitable for such a development. The factory is just 150-200 metres from residential homes and a mere 30 metres from Bioresources Australia, a sensitive facility conducting vital medical research. This proximity raises serious concerns regarding noise, air pollution, and vibrations from 24/7 operations.



The Wingecarribee Local Environmental Plan (LEP) clearly states that the zoning of the area is meant to "minimise any adverse effect of industry on other land uses." This proposal blatantly disregards this objective.

5. Further Detrimental Impacts

- *Fire Hazard: The plant's massive plastic waste storage creates a significant fire hazard, endangering the entire community and potentially releasing toxic fumes.*
- *Microplastic Pollution: Plastic recycling facilities are known to release high concentrations of microplastics into waterways, threatening ecosystem and human health.*
- *Loss of Amenity: The noise, air pollution, and visual impact of the plant will significantly diminish the amenity of the surrounding area, affecting residents' quality of life and potentially impacting property values.*

Need for Recycling, but Wrong Location

We recognise the need for plastic recycling facilities, but this is undeniably the wrong location. The environmental, economic, and social costs are simply too high. We urge the government to explore alternative sites that do not jeopardise our precious Southern Highlands.

Call to Action

We implore the Independent Planning Commission to reject this disastrous proposal. We stand united in our opposition to the Plasrefine Plant. This is our home, our livelihood, our future. We will not stand idly by and watch it be destroyed.

Sincerely,

Ben Wilding
