



**NAME REDACTED**

**OBJECT**

Submission ID: 207146

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| 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: 10/23/2024 2:40:08 PM

*Given the Independent Planning Commission will undoubtedly be inundated with hundreds of submissions commenting on this matter, it is my intention to summarise my objections as succinctly and clearly as possible.*

*My husband and I are residents of Moss Vale and have worked hard to ensure a secure retirement in the beautiful Southern Highlands. The proposed facility will have a devastating impact, not only for the township of Moss Vale, but for the entire Southern Highlands region. We are profoundly dismayed that the abomination of a plastics recycling plant is even being considered for our area, for the following reasons;*

*Location - Beaconsfield Rd is located within the boundaries of the town and is therefore in concerning proximity to residential and commercial centres, including several schools. A facility of this nature cannot legitimately be deemed light industrial as per the existing designation of farmland between Moss Vale and Berrima. Any facility which is capable of polluting the environment to this degree must be relabelled as heavy industry.*

*The undeveloped farmland which encircles the town contributes hugely to its natural beauty and appeal and must be preserved. This is what differentiates the Highlands from Sydney and the Illawarra. No amount of money is worth the desecration of this beautiful gem, which may also be of significant cultural significance to our First Nations citizens. I trust the Elders of our indigenous community have investigated the proposal and have put their findings in the public domain.*

*Dangers of plastic recycling - there is credible scientific evidence which confirms that the process of recycling plastic results in excessive and harmful particulate air and water pollution, with serious long term consequences for the environment, usually irreversible, including contamination of waterways, hazardous air emissions as well as a threat to wildlife.*

*We have noticed a significant change in weather patterns in Moss Vale in recent years, the most obvious being an increase in frequent strong wind gusts. This will of course assist in the circulation of toxic emissions from the plant, with predictions that nearby towns will also be affected.*

*The health risks to our community cannot be underestimated, particularly for our vulnerable younger and older residents. I foresee health issues potentially overwhelming already strained local services. Our own granddaughter is asthmatic and to think her health may be compromised by simply venturing outside, is utterly unacceptable.*

*A government which puts money above the best interests and welfare of its citizens stands condemned.*

*Waste of resources - the recycling of plastic, which is essentially non biodegradable matter, necessitates enormous amounts of energy. This will be an unacceptable drain on our electricity grid and green energy sources and is a criminal waste of water. The need to conserve energy and water is at loggerheads with this all devouring operation.*

*Noise and physical ramifications - a facility which is in operation 24/7 with no respite will clearly negatively impact our quality of life. Noise and rumbling will be unbearable and will reverberate long distances.*

*Traffic - traffic congestion, presently an issue in Moss Vale, will be exacerbated with trucks arriving and departing at all hours. Heavy machinery and equipment will take a physical toll on our roadways, which are already manifesting considerable wear caused by ordinary daily vehicular use.*



*Tourism - most would agree the Southern Highlands is an area reliant upon tourism. Small businesses will be particularly impacted. A plastics recycling plant is in no way a drawcard to visit Moss Vale and together with the pressures of rent, upkeep and day to day expenses, many businesses will have no choice but to close. In recent years our little town has become home to numerous unique shops, eateries and enterprises which attract visitors from far afield. Moss Vale's current profile as a desirable destination will be obliterated.*

*Property prices - should the plant be approved, Moss Vale property values will be decimated. Our future security will be undermined and will inevitably flow over to neighbouring towns and villages. This issue not only concerns the residents of our town, but all towns and villages comprising the area.*

*Employment opportunities furphy - I note the \*\*\*\* owner of Plasrefine has embellished his proposal with promises of job opportunities for locals. This is a complete furphy, as \*\*\*\* owned interests have strict specifications regarding the employment of workers of \*\*\*\* heritage.*

*Why always Moss Vale? - We are disappointed that our home is regularly tagged for these cynical cash grab projects. First the inland port, now a plastics plant. Our area is too populated for these schemes. A plant of this nature should logically be built in a more isolated location, to mitigate the negative consequences. I shudder to contemplate the legal ramifications once the long term consequences become apparent.*

*To conclude, the residents of the area are overwhelmingly opposed to this proposal. It would be foolish for the incumbent State Government to ignore these valid objections. Governments are first and foremost elected to represent the people and are morally obligated to act in accordance with their will. We have spoken, clearly and loudly. The State Labor Government ignores us at its peril.*

*Thank you for your due consideration.*

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