



NAME REDACTED

OBJECT

Submission ID: 207263

Organisation: <i>The Moss Vale Matters Group</i>	Key issues: <i>Social impacts, Visual impacts, design and landscaping, Land use compatibility (surrounding land uses), Traffic</i>
Location: <i>New South Wales 2577</i>	
Attachment: <i>Attached overleaf</i>	

Submission date: 10/23/2024 10:03:04 PM

Please see our our document of objection attached

We have been local residents for over 6 years, moving to the Highlands to escape the pollution of the city & suburbs. We are grandparents & our grandchildren live in the area.

Do we not learn from the past? Arsenic in makeup, radium painted on watch dials, strychnine, mercury, lead in paint, great ideas at the time.

Plastics are chemicals, there is an abundance of information about the toxic substances in plastics, do we wait until there is a cancer cluster to say, oops got that wrong...again. Why don't we be proactive and make a safer call just in case. Let's locate this essential service away from the residential areas so it's not too little too late.

Today we have silicosis from Caesar stone exposure and cancers from PFAS exposure and corporations that are more focused on their bottom line than a few expendable humans, DuPont, James Hardie.

Companies owned by the gentleman behind this plan according to the SMH article on Jan 13, 2022:

"...have been censured by Beijing's Environmental and Ecological Bureau. Public notices on the bureau's website show four regulatory infractions from 2011 including air pollution...."

"A 2020 scoping report submitted by GHD Group, referred to a "Mr Lyu" as "principal technical director" who would "provide the technology and experience necessary to successfully operate the plant"."

Mr Lyu is not a director of this company his niece is.

"Yet in the most recent community engagement report Mr Lyu is described as "an early investor"."

Do not be fooled, Mr Lyu is the controlling shareholder of Plasrefine.

Mr Lyu owns 85% of Mr Lyu Pty Ltd who owns 100% of Green Cycle Holding Pty Ltd who own 85% of Plasrefine Pty Ltd, ultimately 72.25% control.

Mr Lyu also owns 80% of Aunano Pty Ltd, the company that owns the Plasrefine trademark.

This is our opportunity not to get this wrong.

The list of PoTSs (Potentially Toxic Substances) in plastics and plastics recycling is long:

- Phthalates
- Bisphenols
- PFAS
- Flame retardants
- Heavy Metals
- Endocrine disruptors
- Biocides
- Just to name a few

There are endless articles questioning even the safety of plastics recycling. Given that the risks could be very high, why would we want to position so close to a residential area?

What about the 140 workers, their families and their potential exposure to toxins. Will an apology at their funerals suffice?

We are very fortunate in Australia; we have space so why would we even take the slightest risk when we have the choice to locate potentially dangerous industries in a better location?

Extract from Executive Summary page 5 in reference to Operational Air Quality: from Moss Vale Plastics Recycling and Reprocessing Facility Amendment Report Response to Submissions Report Plasrefine Recycling Pty Ltd February 2024

“Low levels of particulates and volatile organic compound emissions from **granulation** and **injection** and **extrusion moulding**. Low level of particulates emissions from **milling** or **profiling** activities in Building 2.”

You may say “low levels” but what about any level, should we be concerned...I say very.

What about the sludge and filter waste? What is the patented disinfectant solution?

Injection moulding and extrusion moulding both require the plastic to be melted. Have you ever smelt melted plastic?

adjective

1. (of a substance) easily evaporated at normal temperatures.
"volatile solvents such as petroleum ether, hexane, and benzene"

Similar: evaporative vaporous vaporescent explosive eruptive

2. liable to change rapidly and unpredictably, especially for the worse.
"the political situation was becoming more volatile"

Similar: tense strained fraught uneasy uncomfortable charged

noun

a volatile substance.

The front page of this report reads:

“This report: has been prepared by GHD for Plasrefine Recycling and may only be used and relied on by Plasrefine Recycling for the purpose agreed between GHD and Plasrefine Recycling as set out in section 1.5 of this report. GHD otherwise:

- *disclaims responsibility to any person other than Plasrefine Recycling*
- *GHD also excludes implied warranties and conditions, to the extent legally permissible.*
- *The services undertaken by GHD in connection with preparing this report ...are subject to the scope limitations set out in the report.*
- *GHD has no responsibility or obligation to update this report to account for events or changes occurring subsequent to the date that the report was prepared.*
- *The opinions, conclusions and any recommendations in this report are based on assumptions made by GHD described in this report.*
- *GHD disclaims liability arising from any of the assumptions being incorrect.*
- *GHD has prepared this report on the basis of information provided by Plasrefine*

Recycling and otherswhich GHD has not independently verified or checked beyond the agreed scope of work.

- *GHD does not accept liability in connection with such unverified information; including errors and omissions in the report*
- *The services undertaken by GHD in connection with preparing this report ...are subject to the scope limitations set out in the report.*
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Gives you a lot of confidence in the information being provided.

Where is the accountability?

What number do you want in your report? I can give you the middle, the mid, the average, the mean, all could be different numbers yet sound similar.

I take some reports with a grain of salt, especially those with a long list of disclaimers, assumptions, estimates, scope limitations. You need to be an expert sometimes to interpret information and yet you can often find another “expert” to provide an opposing opinion.

Do we err on the side of conservative or be incautious ?

Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure dphi.nsw.gov.au Moss Vale Plastics Recycling Facility State Significant Development Assessment Report (SSD-9409987) October 2022, Page v

Fire and Rescue NSW (FRNSW) advised that any toxic smoke from a prolonged fire at the development would rise directly upwards.

Did we not all live through the 2019/2020 fires. We live the other side of town and could smell the smoke. Has Fire and Rescue NSW not heard of the Highlands August winds, what if a fire was in August?

The Department acknowledges it is difficult to accurately predict the nature and scale of social impacts....is that good enough?

I am sure many of you have seen Julia Roberts in Erin Brokovich – will you drink the water? Have you seen the PFAS movies and documentaries? Seriously with all the technology and advances over the centuries, have we advanced?

We constantly see decisions being made that are too short term, no care because it will be someone else’s problem in the future. Now is the time for our policy makers to stand up, make the brave long-term decisions and think about the future generations and not the next election. Bring back common sense. Bring back long-term urban planning. Sensible planning. Sensible decisions.

In my experience, after things get approved it is essentially set in stone. You can add a whole list of rules however what happens if they are breached, a slap on the wrist, a penalty paid by those who don’t really care..... then life goes on as usual.

To the Independent Planning Commission – I am informed that you only address policy and legislation, so who addresses the humanities, the human cost, the future. We can all escape responsibility by saying it’s not my job, not within the scope, an estimate, a guestimate. If it is not your job, refer the matter to a department that will make the hard decisions and stand up and be accountable. Will you stand up and make brave choices?

If the decisions made here are wrong the results will be generational and deadly, will you be regretful when we bury our children/grandchildren.

Who will be accountable if there are cancer clusters in the future? Who will care? How do I explain to our grandchildren that we did not make the best decisions, use the best practice, prioritise our children and the future.

Too little too late....Let’s not, please.

Thank you.