



NAME REDACTED	OBJECT	Submission ID: 209849
Organisation: N/A	Key issues: <i>Social impacts, Visual impacts, design and landscaping, Land use compatibility (surrounding land uses), Traffic, Other issues</i>	
Location: Redacted		
Attachment: N/A		

Submission date: 10/28/2024 4:16:47 PM

28th October 2024

I object to this Plastics Recycling Facility being located in MossVale.

As a mother of children who will be exposed to harmful pollutants should the proposal proceed, I am writing to express significant concerns regarding the proposed Moss Vale Plastics Recycling Facility.

The below outlines the potential health risks and environmental impacts associated with the facility, supported by peer-reviewed studies and documented evidence.

Health Concerns

1. Air Pollution and Respiratory Issues

o Toxic Emissions: Plastics recycling processes, including shredding, melting, and reforming, release harmful pollutants such as volatile organic compounds (VOCs), dioxins, and fine particulate matter (PM2.5). These pollutants are known to cause respiratory issues, including asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD).

o Research conducted in Turkey has shown that workers and residents near recycling facilities suffer from respiratory problems, severe headaches, and other health issues due to exposure to toxic emissions.

2. Chemical Exposure

o Hazardous Chemicals: Recycled plastics often contain dangerous chemicals like phthalates, bisphenol A (BPA), and heavy metals. These substances can leach into the environment and pose significant health risks, including endocrine disruption, reproductive harm, and cancer.

o Peer-Reviewed Evidence: Studies have documented the presence of these hazardous chemicals in recycled plastics, highlighting the potential for long-term health impacts.

3. Environmental Contamination

o Soil and Water Pollution: The facility's operations could lead to contamination of local soil and water sources with microplastics and chemical residues. This contamination can affect local ecosystems and enter the food chain, posing risks to both wildlife and human health.

o Similar facilities worldwide have been linked to significant environmental pollution, affecting both terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems.

Community Impact

1. Proximity to Residential Areas and Schools

o Health Risks to Residents and Children: The proposed site is in close proximity to residential areas and several schools, including Tudor House, Southern Highlands Early Childhood Learning Centre, Moss Vale Primary School, and St Paul's Primary School. The release of toxic emissions and pollutants poses a direct threat to the health and well-being of the local community, particularly vulnerable children.



o Noise and Traffic: Increased traffic and noise pollution from facility operations can further degrade the quality of life for nearby residents.

2. Wind Patterns and Pollution Exposure

o Prevailing Winds: Historical wind pattern data for Moss Vale indicates that prevailing winds often blow from the northwest and southeast. This means that pollutants emitted from the facility could be carried towards residential areas and schools, increasing the exposure risk for children.

o Estimated Exposure: Given the proximity of the facility to schools and residential areas, it is estimated that hundreds of children could be exposed to harmful air pollutants on a daily basis, exacerbating health risks such as asthma and other respiratory conditions.

o Bureau of Meteorology - Wind Patterns in Moss Vale: Provides data on prevailing wind patterns in Moss Vale, which is relevant for assessing pollution dispersion

There has been substantial opposition from the local community, citing concerns about health risks, environmental degradation, and the impact on property values.

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