



MARK WILSON

OBJECT

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Location: New South Wales 2577	
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To whom it may concern,

I am a local resident who resides in a suburb very close to the proposed development, a general practitioner in the Southern Highlands for over 2 decades, an honorary academic with an interest and post graduate qualification in public health (MIPH), and the a director of a local residential aged care company. I believe in prevention, and as such the preferred approach to recycling plastics is to reduce our voracious appetite for plastic products instead of building an ill-advised, inadequately planned and risk-laden facility (fire, water pollution, air pollution) designed only to stave off the inevitability of plastic having to eventually end up in landfill.

The absurdity of the NSW state government position is straight from the pages of "Yes Minister". It would be difficult to see how more than a token very few individuals in our community, either through misplaced ideology or vested interest, could possibly support this ridiculous proposal. Large swathes of non-productive land, not part of a metropolitan water catchment area, exist throughout this state. A significant buffer zone should be mandatory between any such heavy industry proposal and nearby residential, commercial, agricultural and water catchment areas.

The potential for long term health ill effects from the molecules either in the air and/or water resulting from plastic breakdown must be considered. The high risk of fire in plastics recycling facilities would only magnify this risk. The air quality in the Southern Highlands is consistently high, as is our water, and the water that finds its way gradually into the wider Sydney area reservoirs.

ABS surveys regularly indicate a high proportion of young children and older people in the Wingecarribee Local Government area. Both groups would have vulnerability to the potential environmental polluting effects of a plastics recycling plant.

I would counsel the NSW government to reconsider the proposal to approve the Plastic Recycling Facility so close to vulnerable human population areas, in an area with usually pristine air and water quality. There are many other potential sites with a greater buffer between facility and human habitation, which are also not water catchment areas. Please use common-sense and make prevention of the use of plastics in the first place the priority, and do not approve a plastics recycling facility in Moss Vale.