

The Director
Industry Assessments, Development Assessment
Department of Planning & Land Environment
Locked Bag 5022
PARRAMATTA NSW 2124

Dear Sir / Madam

RE: Objection to Proposed Woodlawn Advanced Energy Recovery Centre
Application No: SSD-21184278

I refer to the above application submitted to the Department of Planning and Environment (**Department**) by Veolia Environmental Services (Australia) Pty Ltd (**Veolia**), concerning the proposed Woodland Advanced Energy Recovery Centre at 619, Collector Road, Tarago NSW (**Proposed Development**). Being a resident of Tarago, I **strongly object** to the Proposed Development. The basis of my objection is set out below:

Health Ramifications – Residents, Animals and Livestock

The Notice of Exhibition of the Proposed Development dated 21 October 2022, describes the Proposed Developments as *“an energy from waste facility with a capacity to generate up to 30 megawatts of electrical energy by thermally treating up to 380,000 tonnes per year of residual municipal solid waste and residual commercial and industrial waste”*. The proposed treatment of waste as described in the Notice of Exhibition is very concerning. Thermally treating / incinerating such waste will consequently impact the health of residents, animals and livestock in Tarago and surrounding areas such as Lake Bathurst, Bungendore, Braidwood, Collector, Queanbeyan and even Canberra to name a few.

It is understood that incinerating such waste will result in the emission of toxic pollutants such as lead, mercury and other harmful gases into the air. The particles from those toxic pollutants will travel in the air and will ultimately collect in water and soil, which will subsequently be absorbed by animals, livestock, crops, plants and food grown produce. The consumption of contaminated food and water from toxic particles is very harmful to the health of humans and animals.

Furthermore, as a resident who is reliant on rain water tanks as a source of water supply (like all residents in the Tarago area are), I am very concerned about toxic particles collecting in my household water tanks, which will ultimately have a detrimental impact on the health of myself, my mother and my pets. I am aware of various studies and research papers that indicate that toxic pollutants caused by the incineration of waste can cause various health issues such as lung disease and other respiratory issues, various cancers, reproductive issues and can even impede on the growth and development of young babies and children. I DO NOT want my health, my mother's health and my pets' health to be jeopardised by Veolia's Proposed Development.

Continuous breaches by Veolia

For many years, the residents of Tarago have suffered a lot due to Veolia's mismanagement of its current Woodlawn Landfill Site (**Landfill Site**), namely the strong foul odours which are constantly being emitted from the Landfill Site. These odours are not only affecting the residents of Tarago, but are also affecting residents in surrounding areas. Furthermore, it is common knowledge that each time odours are emitted from the Landfill Site, Veolia is in breach of its licence conditions. As a result of such breaches, the NSW Environment Protection Agency (**EPA**) has issued fines to Veolia for its mismanagement of odours. Also, most recently, Veolia was fined by the EPA for the transportation of leaking shipping containers carrying toxic waste by train from Sydney to its Intermodal Facility here in Tarago.

If Veolia is unable to manage its current Landfill Site without constantly breaching its licence conditions, then I have absolutely no faith at all that it will be capable of managing the Proposed Development without further breaches of licence or infringements.

Conclusion

In conclusion, I do not support Veolia's Proposed Development due the negative impacts it will have on the environment as well as the health and wellbeing of residents in Tarago and surrounding areas.

I acknowledge and accept the Department's disclaimer and declaration.

Yours faithfully



Kristin Chhabra
96 Mulwaree Street
TARAGO NSW 2580