

A submission on the following project.

Woodlawn ARC

Application number

SSD-21184278

Submitted by

Robert Patrech

41 Bellevue Road,

FIGTREE,

NSW 2525

Mob: 0421 650995

Email: bobpatrech@gmail.com

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SUBMISSION
OPPOSING THE
INDUSTRIAL WASTE INCINERATOR
AT TARAGO, NSW
Project : Woodlawn ARC
Application number : SSD-21184278

My name is Robert Patrech. I live in Figtree, NSW. My objection to Veolia's proposed industrial waste incinerator is based on an expected hugely negative result from a financial risk assessment as well as a similar result from a whole of life study for the project.

I firmly believe that a financial risk study will show that not only is there a possibility of financially crippling costs to the company Veolia, if, and probably when, environmental accidents result from the use of this incinerator, costs will possibly, if not probably, will eventually be passed on to the NSW government and NSW tax payers.

Any study needs to investigate the whole of life possibility of environmental accidents occurring and the associated environmental and financial costs to the company Veolia, the NSW government and others.

There is significant evidence that the company Veolia will not prevent possible huge environmental damage to the surrounding area over the lifespan of this incinerator.

Veolia already has a very poor record in containing and controlling environmentally damaging material. No Waste Incinerator Tarago reported that the company has breached license conditions at their existing landfill at Tarago in 2021 exposing local communities to asbestos.

Veolia also reportedly failed to meet reporting requirements and the NSW Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) Odour Audit DOC22/3508 39-1, 10/05/2022 report stated the odour was not measurable, trackable or auditable'

There were 100's of complaints in the last year for the 'unbearable smell' from Veolia's Tarago landfill site. This led to the EPA fining Veolia \$8,000.

This unbearable smell issue indicates Veolia's inability or even unwillingness to keep contained and controlled, toxic particles from entering the atmosphere. If Veolia can not keep this atmospheric pollution resulting in an unbearable smell contained , it can not be expected to keep contained the far more dangerous

and toxic atmospheric pollutants for a possible 30 year life span of the incinerator.

It is difficult to suggest how environmentally disastrous the toxic emissions escaping from the operations of the incinerator site could or would be, but they would come with a financial cost. These financial costs could come in the form of fines, cleanup costs, or even possibly an enormous civil class action, particularly after years of operation.

These costs, particularly class actions, with inflation over many years could become too great for the company to cover, and such costs could end up costing the government of NSW and the NSW taxpayer \$10's Billions.

The cost to Australia of the long term use of asbestos is still mounting through the ongoing deadly health effects on ordinary Australians and the huge ongoing clean up costs which will continue for years to come.

The probable cleanup costs of the toxic pollutants from the operation of the incinerator and legal action against the company and possibly the NSW government could be far greater over the extended period the toxic pollutants will be impacting our environment and communities.

I firmly believe a thorough financial risk study over the life of such an incinerator would find the construction and operation of this incinerator too great a risk, both environmentally and financially to be allowed to proceed.

I therefore believe the risk of resulting toxic pollution in the environment of NSW and the probable transfer of some of the possible enormous costs to the NSW government and taxpayer is too great to allow the development of this industrial incinerator.

Robert Patrech

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DECLARATION

I, Robert Patrech of Figtree NSW declare I have made no declarable political donations.

Robert Patrech
3rd December 2022

ACKNOWLEDGE AND ACCEPT DISCLAIMER AND DECLARATION

I, Robert Patrech of Figtree NSW acknowledge and accept the Department's disclaimer and declaration.

Robert Patrech
3rd December 2022