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To Director -Industry Assessments  
Development Assessment  
Department of Planning and Environment  
Locked Bag 5022  
Parramatta. NSW 2124

Dear Sir/Madam:-IN REFERENCE to  
Woodlawn Advanced Energy Recovery Centre ;  
SSD-21184278

I object to the  
Woodlawn Advanced Energy Recovery Centre ;  
SSD-21184278

proposal as it will negatively impact on the Cultural and Heritage aspects of the Bungonia and Windellema Tarago and Bungendore District.

The Toxic Emissions Plume CANNOT be confined to the site and will extend over the whole district. The cumulative emissions from the burning of toxic Hazardous waste, CO2 from transportations, Methane and noxious gases from stacked toxic waste on site, leachates from all the water uses and wastes on site , should never be allowed to affect a pristine area dedicated to the collection of Sydney Water supply and a jewel of the NSW Tourism Destination areas-Bungonia National Park .

I also strongly object to the prospect of trucks moving waste outside the actual old mine site due to the destructive effects on tank water collection, tourism potential and lifestyle amenity for residents.

Already the Veolia Business has been found in breach of its compliance conditions by the EPA and been fined. The unprocessable residual toxic waste stream from Sydney will cause greater hazards in breaches as will the toxic waste generated by the incineration process itself.

The negative impacts on the lives And tourism potential of this heritage district will be massive.

#### **Heritage**

In regard to the idea that Aboriginal heritage sites 'would not be affected by the development and operation of the proposal or that no "European Heritage would be affected by either the proposed activities on the Project site or transport activities" see the following:-

**Aboriginal** the first land custodians being identified as being the Dharawal people.Sources (Tracey Williams Archaeological report ; 2003 ) mentions that the Bungonia State Conservation Area/National Park lies in the area of the Ngunnawal tribal group adjacent to the North Western corner of the Wandanian tribal territory and the Southern boundary of the Gandangara group" p 17 They say that 'it is probable that the ridge tops were utilized by various groups in movement between the Lowlands and the Highlands with the seasonal availability of food and for interaction between the coastal and the tableland aboriginal groups. Tracey goes on to say "tributary creeks, the springs and depressions", the Ridges", the 'available stone types (secrete Quartzite and various volcanic)' and specific plants on the limestone dolines (summarized)' - would all provide campsites and all the necessities for travelers and for seasonal Aboriginal occupation.

An extract (quoted by Tracey) from John Sceales Diary 4 May 1839

"Blacks of the Mulwarra tribe all arrived today under the two chiefs, old and young Thonguiry- there are about twenty of them encamped close to the house." The house referred to is the house of John George Lynch who held allotments 12-15 of section 3 Village of Bungonia 'P18 Tracey ;

Inverary Park owned by Dr David Reid the magistrate who wrote of relationships with local aborigine especially Cry and Marauenou during 1826 ( Bluett 1954 and State Library of NSW Manuscript Collection mfm CY875 cited in Tracey -)

Inverary Park , just as all the major houses built on the original Land grants and their occupants, were linked by their circumstances ,their shared pastoral activities ,their Judeo-Christian culture and by their early interactions with the Aboriginal people; and with the Bungonia Village as their centre.

The Village lies on the Bogong Moth seasonal food flight path and forms part of an extensive and connected movement pattern reaching from Queensland's black soil plains along the Great Dividing ranges, including Bungonia, to Victoria's Mount Bogong.

**The extensive toolmaking and camping sites of Aboriginal Cultural heritage, continuously being uncovered and examined by the Ngunnawal Gundungarra, and Wiradjuri people at the Boral and Holcim Extractive industries sites, shows that there was extensive Aboriginal activity in this region. Scar trees are clearly identifiable along the seasonal movement and trade routes of these peoples. Water courses were vital. The area is threaded by creeks like Bungonia and Jerrara Creeks, Wollondilly; Wingicarribee rivers and catchments for all these water courses and other intermittent water courses dropping down into the Shoalhaven [Prime Sydney Water Catchment Zone].**

**The Bungonia Slot Canyon is as important a sacred site as Uluru.**

**Bungonia and Windellema are significant early colonial districts and settlements on the first road south out of the Sydney basin. Important to Aboriginal people and the history of early European agriculture.**

**Bungonia Village significance**

**Bungonia Village is now listed as a Heritage Conservation Area in the Goulburn Mulwaree LGA. Its significance is therefore regional and the Bungonia National Park marks this area as being also of National significance. Listed in the GMC Higginbottom study as the LGA having the most intact examples of colonial 19<sup>th</sup> Century land use landscape.**

**Its Crown Reserve holds one of the NSW identified Bio-Diversity hotspots and is a significant remnant grassy box woodland. The Reserve is on the Glossy black Cockatoo Migration route providing vital food trees.**

**The history of Bungonia is tied to the history of the earliest colonial development in Australia.**

- **Continuous occupation and agricultural activity.**

In 1818 explorers James Meehan, Charles Throsby and Hamilton Hume reached Bungonia Creek. When they arrived, there were already illegal squatters living in the area before legal permissions were granted. The Bungonia district was formally settled soon after in the 1820's. Governor Lachlan Macquarie on the 25th November, 1820 issued a General Order giving permission to occupy the 'new' country. This was only 30 years or so after Governor Phillip had landed at Port Jackson. (See Reference no.1)

Official leases were not issued until 1822 and Tickets of Occupation issued in 1823 to free settlers. These included :-

Robert Futter - 2,000 acres Lumley Park,  
David Reid - 1,000 acres Inverary Park,  
James Styles - 2,000 acres Parramarragoo (Reevesdale),  
William Mitchell and G.L.M. Huon de Kerrilleau - 3,000 acres at Corrundunna (Brisbane Meadows) and  
William Bradbury - 4,000 acres at Banganga (Spring Ponds).

Even today Lumley Park, Inverary Park and Spring Ponds are still large acreages, principally because they cover fertile basalt country. Inverary Park was the first Australian farm to buy a wheat harvester. Bungonia was the food bowl for the infant Sydney colony at that time. Bungonia district grew not only grains, but meat, tobacco etc for the Sydney colony. Currently it is a centre of fine merino wool production, meat, forestry and tourism.

Bungonia continues to be of key agricultural importance.

**This significant agricultural heritage has been neither fully explored nor recorded yet.**

- **Development of a vigorous continuing community life**

By 1832 a **village plan** was drawn up by Surveyor Hoddle for this thriving settlement on the Main Road South from Sydney to Braidwood and on to the Murray. It incorporated numerous solid stone and slab buildings and replaced an earlier plan for a settlement further out at Inverary. Included in the Bungonia Village plan was the provision for a recreation area, schools, churches, Police horse paddocks, a courthouse and other public facilities.

Most of the **first European inhabitants** of Bungonia were convicts, ex-convicts or ticket of leave men and women who worked on the surrounding large agricultural properties. As the area developed infrastructure, trade, work and gold attracted people, so other settlers came. The village boasted small businesses like blacksmiths, inns and stores established to service the district. The school, post office, shop, hotels and the two churches operated from a very early date. The first post office in the district operated from Inverary Park, which also had a half school. Many other similar schools around the district were established within walking or riding distance for the children attending.

The Bungonia **cemetery** land was donated to the village by Robert and Margaret Futter, from Lumley Park, in 1824. The first interment was of their young son in 1836. The cemetery was divided into two, with one half for the Anglican Church and the other for the Catholic Church to bury their dead. The cemetery records show a number of original settlers buried plus a number of unmarked convict graves. Two Plaques list the 200 names of those whose actual grave site is unmarked.

Bungonia was a **trading centre** and an artery of the Sydney Colony. Mineral water from ‘Westwood’ spring, copper and arsenic mined from Tolwong on the Shoalhaven and gold from throughout the district, limestone and creek sand for building, mountain ash wood for pit props, marble from Windellama (a great example of this is on the floor of the Great Hall of Sydney University), white pipe clay from ‘Reevesdale’ and **cedar** from the Shoalhaven were all sent to Sydney for its development.

Bungonia was side lined when the railway, unable to manage the steep gradients, went through the flatter country to Goulburn. The focus of development basically moved to Goulburn at that time.

Historically the Village was on the Old South Road that went from Sydney through to Braidwood and ultimately Melbourne.

This road was called the Argyle Road. **The Hit and Miss inn on Jerrara road was close to the site of part of this original road.**

**The heritage of the pioneering families, the convict contributors, the settlers and the villagers is not well known and awaits further detailed research.**

- **The fragility and importance of the built environment.**

Archaeological digs are planned throughout the village to try to discover more of its heritage which is lying in wait yet to be discovered.

A set of buildings locally known as “the bakehouse” are to be restored when funding becomes available. They are considered “of regional significance”.

Many buildings, including this one, are not of solid stone, but are what is called Random Rubble. The construction method makes the buildings very susceptible to earth movements. (See reference No. 7). Random Rubble walls are constructed using stones of various sizes roughly faced on the outside and laid in a lime and sand mortar. They were then generally rendered inside and out with a lime plaster coat.

The Village Hall is another unstable building having been built with rendered rubble. Cracks in the end walls show the evidence of their gradually moving outwards. They will need pinning together, again when funds become available. Truck vibration may increase the rate that this movement will occur.

‘Mizpah’, a 100 year old house opposite the Hall and the site of the first Bungonia Progress meeting is only 14 metres from the centre of the road. The mortar for these buildings are made of sand and lime only-no concrete, and there are no foundations.

There are at least four buildings in the village constructed using random rubble, which are standing on a **reactive clay base**. Bungonia is on the Gunning fault and subject to earth tremors. The most recent earthquake was within the last 6 months. The buildings are already threatened.

Vibration exacerbates the instability of these buildings. When a vibrating roller was used illegally on a Village road (2002), a dramatic crack appeared in a brand new house which had had special foundations designed specifically for Bungonia conditions. The cracking resulted even though the roller was at least 50metres from the building, and, ceased working after fifteen minutes. The effect on older buildings would be disastrous.

Trucks may not have such an obvious effect in such a short time. However vibration does weaken structures over time. Regular exposure to vibration over a period of time would produce the same cumulative destruction.

- **Our Built environment -historical legacy includes a number of very fine buildings of specific interest.**

**St Michael's Catholic Church** was commenced in 1839 and finally opened in 1847. This is the oldest Catholic Church still used on the Australian Mainland. This has been partially restored with further restoration work being planned. A meeting is scheduled with Father Tony Percy, for funding has now become available for this very important project.

**Christchurch**, an Anglican church, was begun in 1877 and finally finished in 1893. This is a most beautiful English Gothic style church with magnificent stained glass windows donated in memory of parishioners and a former Rector. (See Reference No. 5). Christchurch has been listed on the State Heritage Register.

**The Public School building** which was opened in 1882 and closed in 1972 as a school but continued operating as an educational centre until it was sold in 1994, the **Police Station** built in 1907 and closed in 1932, the **Hope Inn** built in 1837 and closed in 1919 and the **Parsonage** built in 1841 and closed in 1888. All these buildings are now used as private residences.

The Centenary of the Bungonia Progress Association was held in 2002 and the centenary of the Bungonia Village Hall was held in 2007.

**Post Colonial history of Bungonia is still waiting to be explored. It is a time capsule, as yet little affected by modern development.**

- **Present values and lifestyle**

The **Crown Reserve Recreation Area** that was provided for in the original plan stretches right along the banks of the Bungonia and Jones'/ Woodward's Creeks within the Village boundaries. (See reference no. 8). This park is looked after by volunteer local Crown Land Managers with children's play equipment, old tennis courts, and picnic tables being provided. A War memorial on the main street and Gallipoli Grove is also located in the park. ANZAC ceremonies are conducted every year.

**Many visitors pass through the village** on their way to the Shoalhaven River or the **Bungonia National Park (30,000 annual )**, which has the deepest limestone gorge in the Southern Hemisphere, the deepest cave on the main land of Australia and the 5 deepest limestone caves in NSW.

The old Bluestone **village school** complex and old **police station** are now private dwellings in the quiet tranquil surroundings of the village.

There have been 10 new land sub-divisions in the area. Most land is sold and many blocks have new residences and families working in the area.

1924 is the Centennial Anniversary of the **first Australian Motor Cycle Grand Prix**. We hope there will be a re-enactment of this race which forms a loop from Goulburn, through Bungonia Village, Windellama and back to Goulburn.

The Village holds **Market Days** twice annually. These markets enhance the atmosphere of the Historic Bungonia Village, an image of a tranquil setting with little traffic. Such days have always been a part of the village life with past church fetes, dances, etc also being regularly held.

The **Historic Village status and signage** continues to be developed in the wake of increased awareness of local history. The Mulwaree Shire Council had employed a Heritage Adviser after a lot of campaigning by a member of Bungonia's Historical Society. This adviser wrote in her report of the William's Property

*, that the site is considered to have further potential to reveal valuable information that will contribute to a greater understanding of the early settlement of the Bungonia Township and the cultural development of the site, the lifestyles of the settlers and users of the historic precinct. This is particularly important given the paucity of historical references and archaeological research undertaken in the area.*

**Conclusion:** As you can see Bungonia is a site of primary historical importance.

**There is insufficient data from earliest periods of both Aboriginal and European occupation. We have a responsibility to ensure the safety of this fragile heritage, so it can be explored adequately in the future. The positive benefits of doing so will be reaped for Reconciliation ,Acknowledgement ,and Cultural Richness for generations to come.**

1/Sterilisation of the Tourism value of this Historic Area would Damage the Destination NSW and the Goulburn Mulwaree LGA costing far more jobs and potential income than could ever be supplied by the short -term waste burning proposal.

2/the permanent cumulative damage to the historic environment and curtilage of heritage area is unconscionable.

3/the permanent cumulative damage to the ecosystem, the water catchment purity and the lives of all creatures in this impact Zone defies all principles of Duty of Care.

4/the transportation Zones and the plume zones cumulatively represent an assault on the safe provision of basic necessities {clean water}and clean air, for all those living in this District .This is a denial of human rights, and an abrogation of responsibility.

5/the Precautionary Principle and “Do NO Harm” should be applied especially with such a residual toxic waste material as its focus material for treatment just as much as with the Incineration process and its toxic plume and vapour outfall and NEW solid waste concentrates requiring PERMANENT secure storage.

I declare I have not made any political donations in the last 2 years.

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

Sincerely  
Anne Wiggan  
33 King St Bungonia

CC Minister for Local Govt Wendy Tuckerman