

12th December, 2022  
Ms Sally Munk  
NSW Department of Planning and  
Environment  
Major Projects  
Locked Bag 5022  
Parramatta NSW 2124

Dear Ms Munk

**RE: OBJECTION TO WOODLAWN ADVANCED ENERGY RECOVERY CENTRE (ARC)  
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (EIS) - APPLICATION NUMBER: SSD-21184278**

I have not made any reportable donations to any political party. I acknowledge and accept the Department of Environment & Planning's disclaimer and declaration.

My full name is David Edgar Beer.

I live at "Beersheba" 128 Castle Hill Road, Moorngag Vic 3673

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**I object to the proposed incinerator.** Though I reside in rural North East Victoria my wife & I regularly stay with friends in the Tarago area and were most disturbed to hear what the NSW Government was planning. I therefore submit the following for your consideration.

**I believe the proposed Veolia incinerator would be extremely dangerous to the local environment and to every living thing in that environment in that:**

**a) It will emit dangerous, toxic fumes** – including toxic heavy metal particulates and persistent organic particulates: dioxins, furens, PBS and PFAS. I learned of this and the dangers of these incinerators in an article on the NSW IPCN website

(<https://www.ipcn.nsw.gov.au/resources/pac/media/files/pac/project-submissions/2018/04/eastern-creekenergy-from-waste-facility-ssd-6236/20180518t193048/incineration-and-human-health-greenpeace.pdf>)

Other dangerous substances named in the article include polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), polychlorinated naphthalenes, chlorinated benzenes, polyaromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), numerous volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and heavy metals including lead, cadmium and mercury.

Given that this information is obtained from a NSW government authority website, I consider it wise of me to believe these incinerators are dangerous to the environment and to all people and creatures in the huge area affected.

**b) The effects of these toxic fumes** are also detailed in the same article: **"Many of these chemicals are known to be persistent (very resistant to degradation in the environment), bioaccumulative (build up in the tissues of living organisms) and**

**toxic.** These three properties make them arguably the most problematic chemicals to which natural systems can be exposed. Some of the emitted chemicals **are carcinogenic** (cancer-causing) and **some are endocrine disruptors**. Others such as sulphur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) and nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) as well as fine particulate matter, have been associated with adverse impacts on **respiratory** health.”

c) During the planned lifetime of the incinerator it will produce some 500,000 tons of toxic fly ash and up to 3 million tons of contaminated bottom ash. These hazardous wastes will be stored in the ground near Tarago. (NSW Dep’t of Planning Woodlawn ARC: Veolia Woodlawn ARC, Tarago Community communications with Veolia 2022)

d) Given the above information **why would the NSW government ever consider having these EfW incinerators anywhere in the state.**

e) I am extremely concerned of the **fallout destroying the environment** and peoples health. Toxic smoke particles will penetrate lungs and brains and move into the blood stream and other organs. (Facts about “waste-to-energy” incinerators, GAIA (Global Alliance for Incinerator Alternatives), 2018.; Particle Pollution Exposure, United States Environmental Protection Agency, [www.epa.gov/pmcourse/particle-pollutionexposure](http://www.epa.gov/pmcourse/particle-pollutionexposure))

f) Veolia has even admitted that **its emissions will exceed the NSW governments standards for safety** (Veolia Woodlawn ARC website; Tarago Community communications with Veolia, 2022.)

g) Yet, Veolia also claims this won’t happen. Given that it has happened to areas in the vicinity of such incineration in UK and Europe, it can only be taken that it will happen here.

h) Veolia claims they will have safeguards to prevent this happening. Their representatives say the safeguards are 100% safe. **Nobody could accept that technology is 100% safe.** We have all seen reports of disasters occurring with supposedly “safe” technology eg vast oil spills, gas well blowouts. The community should not be exposed to any risk with the potential of toxic fumes that may and probably will cause cancers.

i) Veolia claims that small amounts of these toxins are harmless. I do not want to be exposed to any amount of these toxins.

j) **Toxins will accumulate where they are deposited** and will also be carried by surface and ground water to other locations including into Sydney’s water supply as this area is in the upper reaches of tributaries to the Nepean River.

**I believe that the above highlight sufficient reasons why the proposed incinerator should not be built in the Tarago area and for that matter anywhere where human health is at possible risk.**

Sincerely

David Beer