

The Tarago Preschool wishes to OBJECT to the above application

Tarago Preschool is a small community based preschool which has 29 children enrolled and employs 5 local staff members in 2022 and we would like to lodge our OBJECTION towards the proposed Veolia Waste Incinerator.

As educators we are required to maintain the Health, Safety and Wellbeing of the children who are attending our service. The preschool relies on tank water as its only water supply and whilst we have filters on our tank we are concerned this will not eliminate all the particles that will be emitted from the operation which will subsequently land on our roof. The children not only drink but frequently wash their hands in this water.

Outside play is an integral part of a child's development. It is a way in which they connect with their Physical Environment and something the children love to do. All surfaces in the playground will have the airborne particles coming into contact with them, from the play equipment, to the sandpit and grassed area as well as the vegetable garden. Young children frequently put their hands in their mouths to carry out sensory play which means they could potentially be ingesting these dangerous particles.

We also fear that if the proposed incinerator goes ahead people including families will stop moving to this beautiful area. As well as this families that travel to us from outside of the area may also stop bringing their children due to concerns for their health. This will have detrimental effects on the operations of the preschool as enrolments will drop and it will create uncertainty regarding the continued employment of current staff.

Why should the staff have job uncertainty if the proposed project goes ahead? Childcare is an area that the NSW Government is placing great emphasis on, don't cause a vital service to the community and young children to be placed at risk of closure due to dwindling numbers as a result of the incinerator.

The children who attend our service are all still developing and growing. How will a project like this affect their lungs and organs if they are breathing in these airborne particles? What will their future look like?

Tarago Preschool is a service that the community has needed and utilised for over 40 years. It is frequently impacted by the smell emitted from the current operations at the Woodlawn Precinct. Please don't put the health and safety of young developing children at risk by allowing this toxic incinerator to go ahead.

Tarago Preschool has not made a reportable political donation.

Tarago Preschool acknowledge's and accept's the Department's disclaimer and declaration.