

To: Planning NSW

RE: Objection - Woodlawn ARC: SSD - 21184278

My name is Belinda Hayward and I live in Bywong. I strongly object to the proposed incinerator being built in Tarago.

The reasons I strongly object to not just Veolia, but any company's proposal to build an industrial waste incinerator in Tarago is that it will seriously impact myself, my children and our quality of life in Bywong. I am concerned that as Bywong is only 25 kilometres from Tarago and we are in the major impact zone for all prediction lines and if there is a problem with the incinerator it will impact us. The incinerator will emit air pollution 24 hours a day, all year round, this will easily reach Bywong and our property along with those of our neighbours. The pollution emitted by the generator could contaminate our property, our dam and creek as well as us.

The chemicals emitted include acid gases, toxic heavy metals, including mercury. Our only source of drinking water is tank water and these chemicals could contaminate our water supply exposing us to risks of cancer and heart disease. We also grow vegetables and fruit trees that we use for food; on our property and the soil could easily be contaminated with toxic waste ash harming anything that may eat it, which I also understand that it has been classified as hazardous waste by the Environmental Protection Authority. Why would Veolia or any government think that this is a good idea to expose pristine land and communities with hazardous waste when there is already an existing landfill with an expected useful life of 25 years.

The NSW Government itself has acknowledged in its own Energy from Waste Infrastructure Plan that incinerators such as the one proposed for Tarago can impact human health stating *"Populations can still experience health impacts when emissions are below the national standards, and for some common air pollutants, there is NO SAFE threshold of impact"*. If the NSW Independent Planning Commissioner considered it was not in the public interest to put an incinerator in Eastern Creek with one of the reasons being risk to human health, why is it ok to build one in Tarago. Tarago is not an open area with no people living there, it is a large community that comes together with surrounding communities leaving me to ask: Does our health and community not count? It should not matter what the size of the community is, everyone deserves the same living standards and protection from pollution.

Also, Canberra, the capital city of Australia is only 53.32 km from Tarago. This means that this incinerator could affect anyone who lives northside affecting them and their living which may require compensation if loss occurs. So I ask who will compensate me with my kids and I become sick and our property becomes worthless. Who would want to buy land close to an incinerator devaluing our land along with many others.

Our region is home to copious amounts of wildlife that are important to Australia and the local region's nature and beauty. Much of the wildlife eat the plants on our properties and drink water from creeks or dams which the introduction of harmful toxins would surely affect them. Of the beautiful wildlife some are: cockatoos (forty or more), families of kookaburras, Crimson rosellas, large families of chuffs, king parrots,

turtles, kangaroos and swamp wallabies that have their own families. The toxins will change and forever harm the region affecting populations which are already being affected by urbanisation of rural areas, leaving the toxin wasted land for insects.

Climate change is something Australia is trying to fix to make things better for everyone. Why would anyone think that building another incinerator, doubling the amount of pollution generated by incinerators, when the current one has unused capacity, would be a good solution. Such action cannot be good for climate change. There are many ways to reduce rubbish waste and manage it in a proper way like recycling programs rather than burning it and causing harm to the environment. Research shows that burning rubbish to generate energy is unsustainable for the future, the environment and waste management. Noting when incinerators are compared to other energy producing stations it equates minutely and on top of that incinerators pollute more per unit than other stations like coal, oil and gas. The environmental impacts far outweigh any alleged benefits created by job opportunities. Sydney's rubbish problem needs to be solved properly, not by making it another area's problem to clean up "out-of-sight, out-of-mind" seems to be only thought behind this incinerator.

I ask for the sake of our families, the environment and our region that this planned incinerator is stopped and action taken to properly manage waste.