



Office of the Minister for Planning and



PMU031132

DATE RECEIVED:

16 DEC 2013

FILE NUMBER:

IM13/49722

A. MINISTER'S OFFICE

STAFF MEMBER:	☐ Minister	☐ Kath McFarlane (COS)	☒ Lee Dixon (DCOS)	☐ Kacey Cogle
	☐ Other: _____			
MINISTER'S OFFICE ACTIONS:	☐ Acknowledge letter			
	☐ Discuss with Minister			
	☐ Circulate copy			
	☐ For information or file			
ELECTORATE OFFICE ACTIONS:	☐ For information only			
	☐ Discuss with BH as local MP			
	☐ To respond			

B. AGENCY FOR ACTION

☒ Department of Planning and Infrastructure (DP&I)
☐ Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority (SHFA)
☐ UrbanGrowth
☐ CCRDC
☐ Hunter Development Corporation (HDC)
☐ Infrastructure NSW (INSW)
☐ REFER TO OTHER MINISTER: _____

A. ACTION REQUIRED

☒ Minister to Reply	☐ Briefing Note
☐ Parliamentary Secretary to Reply	☐ Parliamentary Folder Note
☐ Chief of Staff to reply	☐ Acknowledge by CCU
☐ DP&I to respond	☐ Acknowledge and Close by CCU
☐ DG	☐ For Information Only
☐ DDG	☐ Other Agency to Respond _____
☐ ED	

C. DEADLINE

☐ Immediate (Priority - ASAP)	
☒ Urgent (7 calendar days)	
☐ Routine (14 calendar days)	
DUE DATE:	AUTHORISED BY: <u>U 17-12-13</u>

NOTES:

Spring Farm Resource Recovery facility

DASP

December 12 2013

The Hon Robyn Parker MP
Minister for the Environment & Heritage
Level 32 West
GMT
1 Farrer Place
SYDNEY NSW 2000



Dear Minister

I have been made aware by Camden Council the Spring Farm Resource Recovery Facility is seeking Council's endorsement for proposed changes to the operations on the site, which is managed by Sita. The Department of Planning and Infrastructure currently has the proposal before them for assessment.

The current proposal primarily relates to the re-use of the existing tank farm for the treatment of liquid waste which is known as leachate. This waste is proposed to be conveyed onto the site from other metropolitan areas. I understand leachate is generally high in ammonia, high in BOD (Biochemical Oxygen Demand) and high in dissolved salts. This proposal would anaerobically treat the waste to a point where it will be suitable for discharge to sewer and in the process would generate methane to be used as a source of power generation.

This process can lead to the emissions of odour and the encroaching residential areas of Spring Farm and Mount Annan South are only a short distance from the boundaries of the facility. Camden Council has advised me that an odour assessment was undertaken as part of the application and it is suggested there will be no emission of odour in excess of the 2OU (odour unit) contour from the boundary of the site. However, it is also noted an odour impact assessment is not an exact science.

Odour emissions from the Sita site has been the most complained issue to me since becoming the Member for Camden and previously as Mayor of Camden. The continual growth in Spring Farm will only exacerbate the situation while ever the homes are built close to the Sita facility.

The Hon Adrian Piccoli MP, Minister for Education recently announced the proposed site for the construction of a the new Spring Farm Public School, which is due to open in 2016 and any impact of odour from the Sita site is of great concern to me.

I would like to formally advise I am also very much opposed to this new proposal and support Camden Council in their objection.

I would appreciate, as a matter of urgency, that the Environment and Protection Authority assess the proposal currently with the Department of Planning and Infrastructure.

I have also written to the Hon Brad Hazzard MP, Minister for Planning & Infrastructure informing him of my objection to this proposal.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Patterson', with a stylized, sweeping flourish extending upwards and to the right.

Chris Patterson MP
Member for Camden