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19 October 2012
Dear Sir/Madam

As a resident of Mayfield East , please accept this submission of objection to Incitec Pivot's proposed ammonium nitrate plant on Kooragang Island (SSD-4986).

I believe the proposal to place this facility so close to residential areas creates an unnecessary risk .

The recent (2011) Orica leak was very disturbing and upsetting, in that it happened despite safeguards and that the response was extremely slow and uncoordinated , which has made the community very worried about safety and future risks.

The addition of a further ammonium nitrate plant would significantly increase this risk and means that we would have two plants right next to each other on the fringe of a large city with danger of further leaks, air and water pollution and explosive risks.

I don't see how the dangers of leaks and explosions, which clearly happen despite environmental impact statements can be justified on the edge of a major city in the 21st century.

The incidents in Toulouse, France involving similar chemicals, in which 30 people died, 3000 were treated for injuries and 5000 were treated for stress (Maria Sala Soler, 2010) demonstrate that risk is possible and accidents can happen with devastating circumstances.

The risk to local residents is unacceptable. We are a family of five and we live in Mayfield East, not far from the plant and don't see how a government can even consider approving such a proposal and transfer the burden of stress and worry onto individuals , let alone expose the residents of a major city to unnecessary risk.

Air, water and noise pollution are also serious concerns for my family and I and we don't see why should we have to tolerate these increased environmental and health risks.

The South Australian government is looking at moving an ammonium nitrate plant and I suggest that the NSW government should take similar action and halt this proposal before placing people at further risk.

On the issue of jobs, it is tiring to hear employment arguments from companies who pollute our city and increase the risk of poor health and disaster to local residents. It is time for a change. The wind turbine on the island stands symbolically as some hope for the future and as a clear example of where our governments should be focussing future investment. Sadly, Kooragang island is looking like some sort of post -apocalyptic toxic wasteland from a b-grade movie, which would be humorous, if it was not

for the impact it has both aesthetically for tourists and for locals, but more disturbingly the way this area of land is being used to accommodate what appears to be a dangerous cocktail of fuel and potential explosives without any seeming consideration of the cumulative effects and risks.

It is hard not to view the 2 year delay in decisions as a cynical one in which the heat can be taken off the issue. Newcastle is changing, if anything community knowledge and concern will increase and opposition to this proposal will grow. Please do not approve this facility.

Please recommend the rejection of this proposal .

As a submission maker, I can confirm that I have not made a political donation totaling \$1000 or more in the past 2 years

Yours Sincerely,
Bill Robertson
48 Kitchener Parade
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Ref.

Soler, M S (2010) Comparison of 3 European Countries Response in terms of epidemiological response and preparedness for disaster