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Department of Planning
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Scanning Room

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INCITEC PIVOT AMMONIUM NITRATE MANUFACTURING
PLANT - APPLICATION # SSD-4986

I HAVE NEVER MADE ANY DONATIONS TO ANY
POLITICAL ORGANISATION.

I OBJECT TO THE PROPOSED INCITEC PIVOT
AMMONIUM NITRATE MANUFACTURING PLANT.

I HAVE LIVED IN STOCKTON FOR 16 YEARS. WHEN
I FIRST ARRIVED, BHP WERE STILL OPERATING ON
Kooragang. WHEN THE PLANT WAS CLOSED, THE
QUALITY OF THE AIR IN STOCKTON IMPROVED
SIGNIFICANTLY. IT TOOK MANY DAYS OF FILTHY
WORK TO CLEAN THE THICK LAYER OF COAL DUST
FROM THE CEILING OF MY HOUSE. IT WAS AT
LEAST 15cm THICK. A SOIL TEST IN MY GARDEN
IDENTIFIED ALARMINGLY ELEVATED LEVELS OF
ZINC.

I THOUGHT THE CLOSING OF BHP WOULD BE A
NEW BEGINNING FOR NEWCASTLE WITH A MORE
INTELLIGENT AND INNOVATIVE FUTURE. I THOUGHT THE
IGNORANT PRACTICES OF THE PAST THAT IGNORED THE
HEALTH AND SAFETY OF THE HUMAN COMMUNITY AND
THE ENVIRONMENT WOULD BE LEFT BEHIND.

HOWEVER, I HAVE FOUND THAT POLLUTING
INDUSTRIES HAVE BEEN ALLOWED TO CONTINUE AND
TO EXPAND THEIR OPERATIONS. IT IS UNCONCEIVABLE

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TO ME THAT THIS IS HAPPENING IN THIS DAY AND AGE ESPECIALLY IN SUCH A SENSITIVE ENVIRONMENT, IT IS WHERE THE HUNTER RIVER MEETS THE SEA WITH FRAGILE ECOSYSTEMS AND LARGE CONCENTRATIONS OF HUMAN POPULATION, IT WAS A MISTAKE TO PUT POLLUTING INDUSTRIES THERE IN THE BEGINNING AND IT IS A BIGGER MISTAKE NOW TO ALLOW THEM TO CONTINUE - AND EXPAND.

SINCE ARRIVING IN STOCKTON I HAVE TRIED TO GROW MY OWN FRUIT AND VEGETABLES, PRODUCE MY OWN HONEY, RECYCLE MY WASTE AND I HAVE INSTALLED PHOTO VOLTIC PANELS TO GENERATE MY OWN POWER. THERE IS NO LAW THAT HAS REQUIRED ME TO DO THIS, IT HAS BEEN DONE TO CONTRIBUTE TO A MORE "SUSTAINABLE" AND HEALTHY PLANET.

WHY HAVE OUR ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES AND THE GOVERNMENT AGENCIES CHARGED WITH PROTECTING HUMAN HEALTH AND OUR ENVIRONMENT BEEN REMISS IN DOING SO. THERE ARE NO BENEFIT/COST ANALYSES THAT CONSIDER THE LONG TERM HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF THE ALLOWABLE EMISSIONS GENERATED BY POLLUTING INDUSTRIES - LET ALONE THE NON-PERMITTED EMISSIONS INTO OUR AIR AND WATERWAYS, IT IS NOT PART OF THE ECONOMIC EQUATION, NOR ARE THE COSTS OF DEPLETING NON-RENEWABLE RESOURCES OR THE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES PROVIDED. THIS INCLUDES THE USE OF AIR, WATER AND SOIL TO DUMP EMISSIONS AND EFFLUENT, SURELY WE ARE AT A TIME IN HISTORY WHEN ONLY INDUSTRIES WHICH HAVE A ZERO EMISSIONS POLICY SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO OPERATE, AND THERE SHOULD BE NO INDUSTRY ALLOWED IN ANY CASE IN VULNERABLE ENVIRONMENTS

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I HAVE LITTLE FAITH IN THE APPROVAL PROCESS. IT HAS BEEN WELL KNOWN FOR DECADES THAT PROPONENTS OF DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS ALWAYS SELECT ORGANISATIONS TO CONDUCT THE EIS WHO ARE BIASED IN FAVOUR OF THE PROJECT OR GIVE A FAVOURABLE REPORT TO CURRY FAVOUR WITH THEIR EMPLOYER. WE ALSO SAW HOW ORICA WAS ABLE TO OPERATE FOR YEARS DESPITE ITS MANY REGULAR NON-COMPLIANT EMISSIONS. IT WAS ONLY THE RECENT HEXAVALENT CHROMIUM AND AMMONIA GAS EMISSIONS THAT FORCED THE EPA TO ACT. MANY OF US HAD CONTACTED THE EPA OVER THE YEARS ABOUT LATE NIGHT EMISSIONS AND FOUL SMELLS WITHOUT ANY ACTION BEING TAKEN. WE WERE ALSO DISMAYED THAT ORICA HAVE BEEN PERMITTED TO CONTINUE OPERATING DESPITE THEIR ABJECT FAILURE TO MANAGE RISKS AND THEIR CONTEMPTUOUS ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE COMMUNITY. AS I HAVE ALREADY SAID, I AM TOTALLY OPPOSED TO THE BUILDING OF YET ANOTHER AMMONIUM NITRATE PLANT.

I THINK THE EIS DOES NOT ADEQUATELY ADDRESS THE POTENTIAL RISK OF EXPLOSION. THERE IS ALSO ~~A~~ EXCESSIVE STORAGE PROPOSED ON-SITE OF AMMONIUM NITRATE AND THERE IS NOT SUFFICIENT EVACUATION DISTANCE ALLOWED IN THE PROPOSAL. STOCKTON RESIDENTS ARE ALSO ALREADY DEALING WITH UNACCEPTABLE NOISE LEVELS FROM THE COAL LOADERS AND OTHER INDUSTRY. WE DO NOT WANT ANY ADDITION TO THIS NOISE LEVEL.

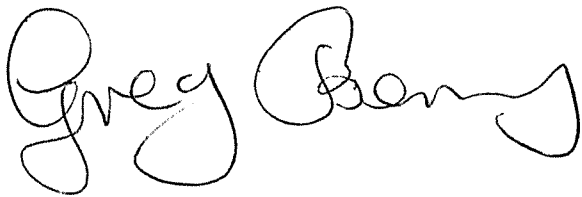
THERE ARE ALREADY ENOUGH EMISSIONS GOING INTO OUR AIR AND WATER. I DO NOT WANT ANY

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MORE EMISSIONS SUCH AS NITROGEN OXIDE,
AMMONIA GAS AND DUST AND OTHER PARTICLES
TO ADD TO THE PERMITTED AND NON-PERMITTED
EMISSIONS. IT IS ALSO PARTICULARLY GALLING
WHEN THIS IS HAPPENING NEAR A WORLD
RECOGNISED RAMSAR SITE. WE NEED TO GET OUR
PRIORITIES IN ORDER.

THERE HAS ALSO BEEN VERY POOR COMMUNITY
CONSULTATION, THERE HAS BEEN ONLY ONE
DAYTIME AND NIGHTTIME INFORMATION SESSION
IN STOCKTON. THIS SHOWS TOTAL DISREGARD
FOR THE WELFARE AND INTERESTS OF THE
COMMUNITY.

PLEASE REJECT THIS PROPOSAL.



GREG BERRY