

Ref: 162533_1-Submission to DOPI - SITA

21 May 2013

The Director General
Department of Planning & Infrastructure
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001

Dear Sir,

PROPOSED EXPANSION OF SITA KEMPS CREEK SAWT FACILITY (SSD-5275)

We write on behalf of owners of property at Elizabeth Drive, Kemps Creek, being Lots 7, 9 and 10 in DP 812284, Lot 741 in DP 810111, Lot 5 in DP 860456 and Lots 1 and 2 in DP 587135, in response to the recent exhibition of the proposal for expansion of the SITA Kemps Creek SAWT facility. This site is located immediately adjacent to our client's properties and there is significant concern regarding the potential increase in noise and odour, as a result of the proposal for expansion.

Noise

A Noise Assessment Report regarding the facility was finalised in January 2013 by Wilkinson Murray. The report identifies exceedences in noise levels around the properties owned by our client (indicators R1, R2, R24 and R37). The noise mitigation measures that are presented in Section 7 of the report would aid in the reduction of operational noise and therefore, it is submitted that these measures should be put in place immediately, prior to any further expansion.

The Noise Assessment Report (Wilkinson Murray, 2012) recommends *'that a noise pollution reduction program be prepared and implemented to address noise generated by the Landfill operations and ensure all reasonable and feasible noise mitigation is implemented' (p60)*. It is submitted that the recommended noise pollution reduction program should be prepared and placed on public exhibition for comment, prior to the final determination of the application. The agreed noise reduction program should then be implemented immediately with a specified date for completion.

Odour

There are long standing and ongoing concerns regarding the noxious odours emitted by the existing facility and their impact on neighbouring properties. The residents/occupiers of the properties at 1669A Elizabeth Drive, 1669B Elizabeth Drive, 1669C Elizabeth Drive and 146A Clifton Avenue have recorded the noxious odour on a subjective scale of 1 to 10, with 10 being the most unpleasant and unbearable. These odour recordings have been maintained regularly since 2011. The total number of days that were recorded as 'offensive' by local residents are included in the following table:

Property	Days recorded as odour offensive	Period
1669A Elizabeth Drive	19	26-06-2011 to 31-08-2011
1669A Elizabeth Drive	45	13-03-2013 to 18-05-2013
1669B Elizabeth Drive	38	12-03-2013 to 19-05-2013
1669C Elizabeth Drive	18	07-06-2011 to 03-08-2011
1669C Elizabeth Drive	50	10-01-2012 to 30-07-2012
1669C Elizabeth Drive	54	10-03-2013 to 11-05-2013
146A Clifton Avenue	51	12-03-2013 to 20-05-2013

The most recent data set, recorded between March 2013 and May 2013 inclusive, is summarised in graphs 1.1 to 1.4. The tables are attached to the end of this submission.

It is clear from the residents' recordings from 2013 that the noxious emissions spreading to the surrounding residential properties are currently of significant concern. It is submitted that the odour reduction/elimination measures be installed immediately, and a formal monitoring program established prior to the issue of any further development consent.

It is noted that an Air Quality Impact Assessment was carried out by AECOM Australia Pty Ltd dated 18 January 2013. This report states:

'Provided that the Development is operated in accordance with the assumptions made in this assessment, and that all reasonable measures are taken to limit the odour and dust emissions associated with the Development's operations, the Development is not expected to adversely affect the air quality at the sensitive receptor locations assessed' (AECOM Australia Pty Ltd, 2013, p.52).

The report indicates that the *'Development is not expected to adversely affect the air quality at the sensitive receptor locations assessed'* (AECOM Australia Pty Ltd, 2013, p.52). However, as demonstrated in the evidence presented above, the air quality in the vicinity of the current facility is currently unacceptable to adjacent residents on a significant number of days throughout the year. There are legitimate concerns that the air quality will be significantly further adversely affected, should the facility be further expanded. It is therefore submitted that the proponent be required to install effective and adequate air quality treatment devices and systems prior to development consent for any further expansion, with an associated monitoring program to ensure that the measures are effective in reducing the impact of the facility on air quality in the locality.

It is also vital that the odour control measures recommended in AECOM Australia Pty Ltd are installed and regularly maintained to ensure ongoing effectiveness and efficiency. Any increase in odour as a result of the upgrading of the facility is considered unacceptable. It is considered that modern technologies and improvements in waste treatment processes, as outlined in the AECOM report, be implemented immediately to reduce the existing and ongoing impact of odour emissions on the surrounding lands.

The Operational Environment Management Plan (SITA, 29 April 2009) for the site contains Operational Objectives and Performance Criteria for odour management. The identified Operational Objective is to 'minimise odour emissions.' The Performance Criteria contained in Section 4.5 of the Management Plan are:

'The EPL, Approval and Statement of Commitments for the AWT facility define measures to be used to reduce and eliminate odours. The main odour criterion for the AWT is to not generate offensive odours.' (p24)

The above data indicates that the facility currently does generate odours that are recorded as offensive by local residents. It is submitted that compliance with the Operational Objectives and Performance Criteria should be monitored and confirmed as being satisfactorily achieved, prior to approval of any expansion of the facility.

Buffer Zones

It is requested that the proponent clearly identify buffer zones around the facility for noise, odour and stormwater management purposes. Specifically the surrounding properties in private ownership should not be considered as part of the buffer zone. In this regard the measures outlined in the Operational Environment Management Plan, specifically the Operational Objectives and Performance Criteria's contained in Section 4, should be fully addressed.

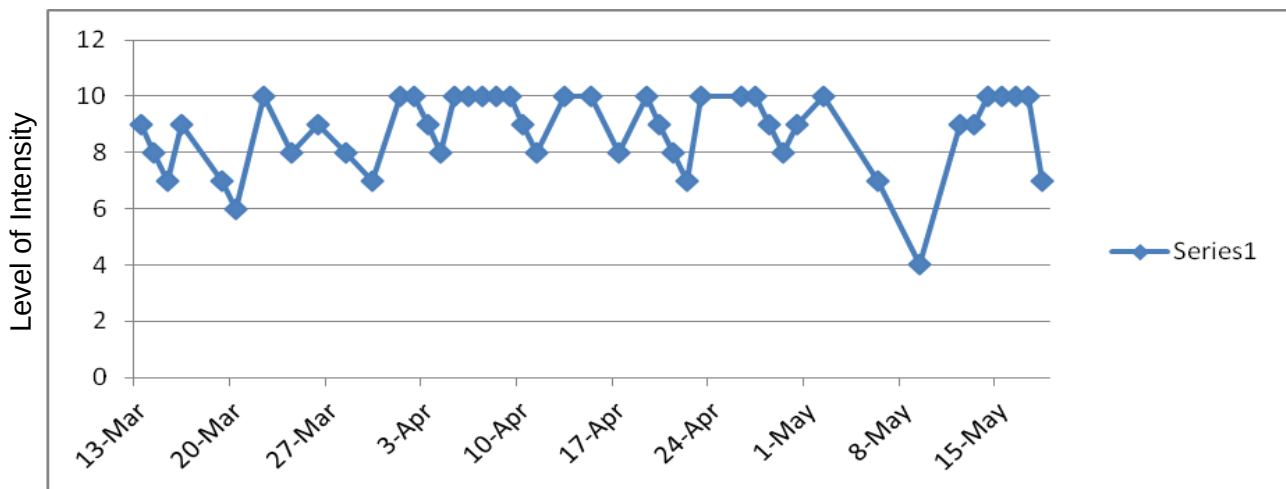
In summary, it is requested that the proponent be required to demonstrate that the facility complies with the existing Operational Environment Management Plan prior to any approval for expansion of the facility.

Yours faithfully,

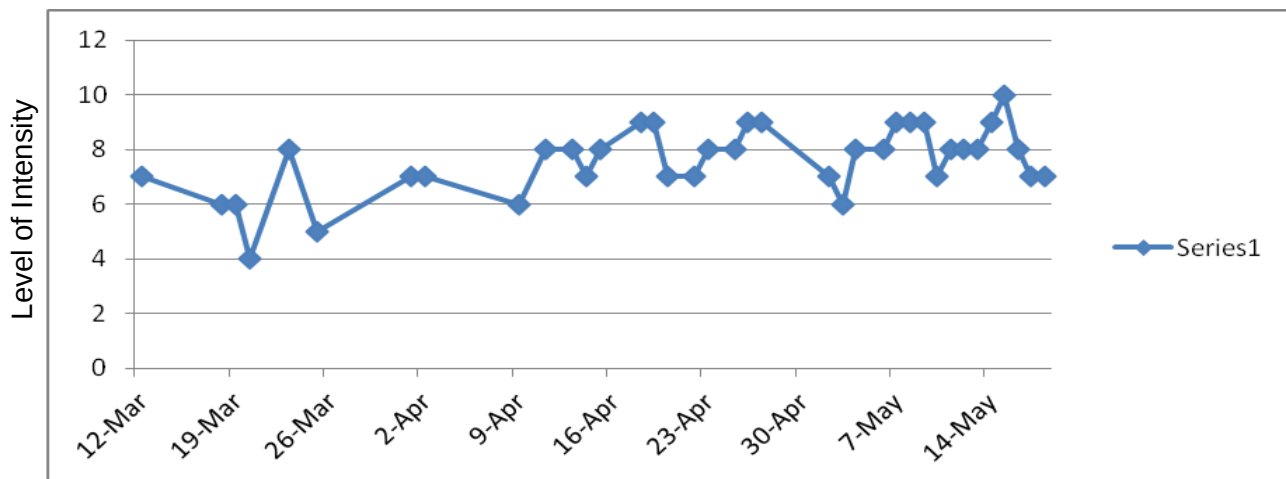


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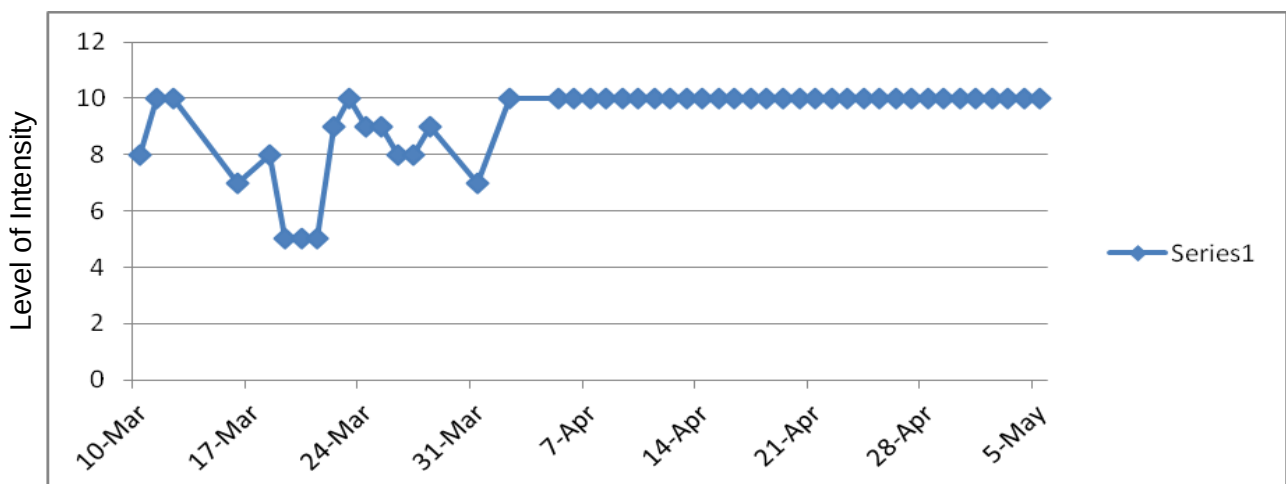
Odour emission records March-May 2013



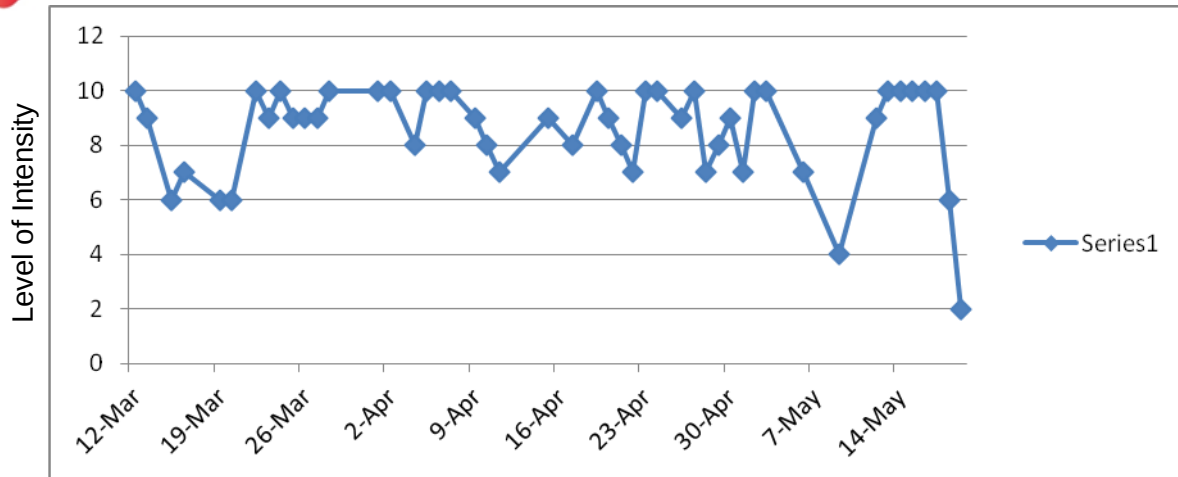
Graph 1.1 – Odour emission records March-May 2013 – 1669A Elizabeth Drive.



Graph 1.2 – Odour emission records March-May 2013 – 1669B Elizabeth Drive.



Graph 1.3 – Odour emission records March-May 2013 – 1669C Elizabeth Drive.



Graph 1.4 – Odour emission records March-May 2013 – 146A Clifton Avenue.