

I object wholeheartedly to this project. Tarago is a thriving and booming community with an increasing population which is already devastated by the existing mine waste disposal facility.

This project has already been rejected in Matraville, Western Sydney as a significant polluter and a threat to human health. It is therefore inconceivable that it should be proposed at a site where there is a growing population of young families, commuters and people working from home. The existing facility emits an appalling smell, hazardous waste/substances leeching into the water table.

The existing operators, Veolia, is receiving regular fines by the EPA for breaches to its operating licence, therefore harming community and the environment. Fines go back decades. Why then would the NSW dept planning even consider approving an expansion to something that is clearly already a disaster.

The Environmental Protection Licence under which Veolia operates its current waste disposal facility states:

'L6.1 The licensee must not cause or permit the emission of offensive odour beyond the boundary of the premises.

Ask anyone in Tarago, Collector, Boro, Currawang, Mount Fairy, Lake Bathurst or Gundaroo and they will all contest to the fact that the existing facility fails to be bound by legislation.

The community has already had the stress of successfully fighting a wind farm proposal, which took 6 years and they are now faced with fighting an utterly ridiculous proposal of living next door to an incinerator that is burning waste from Sydney. There are no safe work practices in place that guarantee that no toxic waste is burnt. The waste comes in compacted cubes and are given a cursory 'eyeballing' before being processed. I would question how the department expects the community to have any faith.

Roads in the community have been severely impacted. Residents are reporting being bullied and harangued on the roads by the trucks travelling in the area. The roads are not suitable for the amount of heavy traffic and are deteriorating significantly. I would assert that there will be fatalities and accidents. Only yesterday my son was run off the road avoiding a heavy vehicle and his windscreen was damaged by the resulting gravel cloud that covered the vehicle.

Please listen to the community and protect the young families and residents of this local and growing area. The council has no right to approve planning for new houses if we are not going to be protected.