

OBJECTION TO VEOLIA'S INCINERATOR AT TARAGO, NSW

My name is Greg Hajek and I live at Mount Fairy which is in close proximity (as the crow flies) to Veolia's waste depot outside Tarago NSW.

I have two primary objections these being, air pollution and ground water contamination. I have many other concerns as well which I will also briefly address.

Air Pollution

It is documented that Veolia's proposed incinerator will operate 24/7 for 25 years and will spew polluted toxic emissions from its chimney continuously. These toxic emissions include heavy metals, acid gasses, and organic particles. Over time these emissions will accumulatively pollute the surrounding countryside and villages and towns where it settles and it will be absorbed by the soil, water and all living things including vegetation, animals, and humans.

The polluted air will also settle on rooftops and wash into rainwater tanks so there will be no escape from ingesting the toxins.

One doesn't need to be an Einstein to understand that the absorption of these toxins over time is not good for the ongoing health of humans and animals or the foods that they consume which will also be contaminated.

Humans and animals as well as the environment will be contaminated for generations at an ever-increasing level while the incinerator is allowed to operate. This cannot be allowed to happen, and the Veolia Incinerator proposal needs to be stopped and not ever permitted to see the light of day ever again.

If the incinerator proposal did go ahead the damage done from air pollution to everyone and everything will take decades if not centuries to dissipate from the environment.

Ground Water

I have a bore on my property which has good drinkable water although I only use the water for irrigation.

My concern is that the pollution from the incinerator stack will be absorbed into the soil and eventually finds its way into the aquifers in this region. This will not only detrimentally affect the local environment, animals, crops and humans but will also eventually affect the Sydney water supply.

Currently Veolia is already contaminating the ground water as a result of leaching from the tonnes of Sydney garbage that is dumped into Woodlawn Mine. We don't need to add to the existing air pollution problem.

Again, if the incinerator proposal did go ahead the damage done from polluting the groundwater will take decades if not centuries to dissipate from the environment.

Other Objections

I strongly object to Veolia's attitude towards the local population. In a recent media release Veolia was contemptuous towards the local population by accusing the locals as NIMBY. I am happy to where that label when one considers the cumulative impacts of so many heavy industry developments in the local area including Veolia.

Veolia already putrefies the air with their Woodlawn Bio-reactor and impurities leaching into the groundwater from Sydney's dumped waste.

The NSW Government has banned toxic waste incinerators in Sydney due to the risk to human health. Why would it be OK to dump it on residents in the regional areas? Well, it's **NOT** OK and the IPC needs to reject Veolia's proposal for this incinerator, for the same reasons used to reject the Eastern Creek proposal in July 2018.

If its OK for Sydney to NIMBY a toxic project, then it should follow that the Tarago region can also NIMBY a toxic project for the same reasons.

I also object to Veolia's proposal for the Incinerator on the grounds that it does not have a social licence to do so. The people of Tarago and the local region, overwhelmingly, do not want this incinerator project. Community acceptance for this project is NOT given.