

Ms Emma Barnet.

Industry and Infrastructure Assessments.

NSW Department of Planning and Environment

GPO Box 39

Sydney NSW 2001

Re: SSD - 9409987 Moss Vale Plastics Recycling Facility Amendment

I declare that I have not made any reportable political donations within the last two years.

Dear Ms Barnet,

The following submission contains my objections, regarding the Moss Vale Plasrefine facility (SSD - 9409987)

Social Impact and Health: The vast majority of Moss Vale residents, myself included, are part of an aging population, which represents the major demographic of the Southern Highlands. As such, health concerns become a primary factor for consideration, not only in terms of appropriate housing development but more particularly, for proximity to inappropriate heavy industrial development. Documents provided by GHD have indicated that there are 25 toxic carcinogenic chemicals that will be used during processing, 4 of which are classified as hazardous, with benzene being of particular concern. Our township is prone to strong prevailing westerly winds, amongst others, which would transfer any emissions across the Highland townships of Burradoo and Bowral. This would not only affect the residents, but also the school populations of Oxley and Chevalier. The site area is also prone to long periods of low-lying fog during colder months, which does not clear till late morning, in most cases. Suggestions by GHD, that residents could simply reduce the time spent outdoors during periods of increased emissions, is nothing short of outrageous and helps to illustrate the contempt for our community, shown by the proponent.

Plastics recycling is an evolving industry and consequently, so are the implications for its long-term effects on public health, through the release and contamination of highly toxic emissions and micro plastics. Research into the contamination caused by micro plastics degrading and emanating into the environment are simply alarming. The technology being proposed by Plasrefine, has not been tested in Australia and the owner and Director of the company has no experience in plastic recycling. I have been advised that the owner and his companies in China have been issued with several fines by Government organisations for pollution and non-compliance. This is not the type of industry or operator that we would want so close to homes and businesses in our township.

Site: The Plasrefine factory site is located within the town boundary, only 2.17kms from the old GPO. Detailed design drawings include a 22+ metre high stack for the release of emissions, although it is not shown in situ on any of the drawings, leaving it open to speculation. Where exactly will it be located and what is the proximity to the closest residents and businesses? Since Plasrefine is proposing to use a catalytic converter in their processing, will residents be seeing a huge flame of burning gases spewing from this stack?

The site is located on a category two riparian zone, which is situated within the Sydney drinking water catchment and is prone to flooding. During the unprecedented weather conditions experienced throughout 2021 - 2022, this area experienced serious flooding. The possibility of contamination by micro and nano plastics, is highly probable and too great a risk to be permitted. This is the same water course which GHD have proposed to divert. It flows into Whytes Creek, Medway Rivulet and ultimately into the Wingecarribee River. This provides the drinking water for thousands if not millions of residents. How can our community be assured that Plasrefine has the right equipment and filtration processes to prevent a contamination catastrophe, when all the current research claims it can't be done? These contaminants will not only be significant but also irreversible and permanent. This cannot be allowed.

Location and Impact: The intended factory is located within the town boundary, at the top end of Beaconsfield Road, a distance of 2.17kms. The site is also some 150 - 200 metres from the nearest residential homes and less than 50 metres from the ABR/Garvan boundary. With their approved DA for expansion, they will be virtually on the Plasrefine boundary.

The detrimental effects on the ABR Garvan facility would undoubtedly prove immeasurable and is of grave concern: noise, vibration and more concerningly, odours and emissions, not only from the factory itself but also from the