

31 January 2021

Dear Kaitlyn Symington,

Re: Exhibition of State Significant Development Application
Gunnedah Waste Facility
Application No: SSD-8530563

I **OBJECT** to the proposal of the construction and operation of a resource recovery facility and waste transfer station to store and process up to 250000 tonnes per annum including excavated natural minerals, construction and demolition and commercial and industrial waste and contaminated soils.

The safety of the community and the environment (people's lives, properties, livestock, flora, fauna, waterways, and ecosystems) may be at risk of contamination within the proposed location. I object on the grounds of;

Water contamination

The Lots 1 & 2 DP 1226992 are neighbouring lifestyle rural residential blocks.

My family's property (a lifestyle rural residential block) is 450m from the proposed site. I have livestock in the front paddock where there is an open dam and natural water course that flows through during heavy rainfalls and flooding.

Due to the recent development of the industrial estate (in which the proposed Waste facility is to be constructed), a new culvert has been put in place to handle the water run off from these sites. This culvert lets the water thru under the highway and down the natural water course that flows into the lagoon then thru 4 properties and back into the Namoi River. This being a known natural water course and flood area that I have witnessed over the past 33yrs of my family living here.

Not only is there water course, dams, lagoons, and the Namoi river there is also underground water and bores, that families in this area depend on for stock and domestic use, that would also be at risk of contamination. The wastes that will be accepted at this proposed facility including; general solid waste CT1 soils, contaminated soils, C&D waste, C&I waste, asbestos and lithium batteries (as per Figure 3.1 Mackellar Equipment Hire Pty Ltd, Request for SEARS) will be catastrophic if they seep or spill into our water systems.

Increase in traffic

The extra traffic that is proposed to travel in and out of the site causes me much anxiety as this is already an extremely busy highway, to turn into the family property, I have to turn right across oncoming traffic while watching in my rear view mirror hoping that the traffic behind me has seen my indicator that I have on, trying not to get cleaned up in the middle of the road. As there is no where for traffic to go round, there has already been many near misses and wiped out guide posts.

My other concern is for my nieces and nephews catching the bus to the farm (10200 Kamilaroi Highway) of an afternoon. Once again the bus will drop them off on the opposite side of the road in the afternoon and they will have to cross the road to get to The Farm, with coal haul trucks and the proposed waste trucks coming every 5 mins the kids will have to have to really concentrate harder than school just to cross the road. With these trucks travelling at 100km/hr on this road (Kamilaroi Highway) for them to brake fully loaded it is going to take some time. These are a number of children that catch the school bus everyday that this will affect.

Dust

The EIS states there is going to be 14 external open storage bays which may contain contaminated substances. I am concerned that there will be dust not only from the traffic going in and out but also the dust and particles coming off the waste storage bays possibly contaminating surrounding areas. The family farm is 450m from the proposed site and there is little vegetation and ground cover between us. We have also been in drought for the last 4years so the dust that travels is thick and settles on everything. My stock in the front paddock drink out of open troughs and a dam that would be at high risk of contamination not to mention their feeders. The health and well being of my son visiting the farm, whom is an Asthmatic, is also a major concern as the extra dust could potentially bring on an attack.

Noise

The truck and traffic noise will be bad enough but the use of a crusher at the facility, that mentions in the EIS that it will exceed the noise levels, will not only be damaging to our quiet country outback community but to the hearing of all those in and around the area.

Contaminated Waste & Emissions

The contaminated waste including asbestos being processed and lithium batteries being stored can be detrimental to not only the properties but people will be putting their health and lives at risk by living in the area. The emissions of gas and lead and other contaminants that are not seen that will be expelled from the site that will enter into the atmosphere will have dire consequences if not contained.

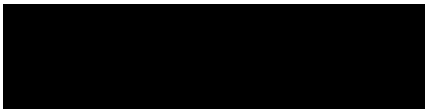
Putting the health and well being of others at risk

The health and well being of the property owners will be at risk not only from the contaminated waste but from stress and anxiety of living within such a close proximity to contaminated waste. How will the mental health of those property owners and others in the area be monitored and managed?

Mackellar's unanswered questions and non compliance

The business putting forward the application is also known for non compliance as per the "costalot" development where they have never completed the landscaping to provide a buffer. Or the non compliance with their blue metal quarry in regards to truck movements that they have breached. How are we supposed to take their word for the containment of contaminated waste in our back yards, when they are unable to comply with simple requirements. There is mention of contaminated waste coming from interstate. How is this possible when we cross the border with livestock we have to spray stock and trucks for ticks, plant materials, pests etc at livestock treatment facilities. How will the contaminated waste be monitored and ensure that no pests or transfer of contamination goes from one state to the next? Also there is no final destination for the contaminated waste. Where are they going to store all the asbestos and lithium batteries and contaminated soil once it has been processed? How long will it sit on the lot? Where is the final destination...? I bet not next door to their house.

Sincerely yours,

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of the sender.