

**NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure**

GPO Box 39

Sydney NSW 2001

Attn: Mr David Mooney

**RE: Moorebank Waste Facility (MP 05\_0157)**

**Letter of Objection to Preferred Project Report**

Dear Sir,

I strongly object to this development for a number of reasons.

My wife and I recently purchased land within the Georges Fair Estate at Moorebank to build our dream home, and to enjoy the lifestyle and recreational activities that are available in and around the area. We have invested a significant amount of our savings into this house as it is to be our forever home this development application now clearly impacts on our investment. The proposal to construct a heavy recycling plant in close proximity to what has been clearly sold as a residential and recreational development is preposterous.

Such a development would adversely affect all land owners within the Georges Fair and surrounding estates causing undue financial strain and heartache. Studies on other potentially hazardous surrounds such as High Voltage Transmission Lines, telecommunication towers, etc have resulted in decrease in market property values by up to 30 percent.

Many issues still remain unresolved with respect to the safe movement of heavy vehicle into and out of this site. Heavy vehicles will require additional lane space to effectively manoeuvre (lane splitting) to effect the tight left turn in to this site both during construction and, if approved, during its ongoing operation. In conjunction with the unpredictable nature of some drivers on our road and the increased traffic volumes now entering the Georges Fair residential estate from the near side lane may lead to an increase in vehicle accidents between heavy vehicles and passenger car resulting in most likely fatalities.

Trucks will be entering / exiting the site via the same gate on Newbridge Road causing increased pressure on traffic flows on a major aerial road already congested during morning and evening peaks. Brickmakers Drive Moorebank has recently been declared a 5 Ton weight limited road therefore unable to access the road. If access were to be granted heavy vehicles exiting the site via Brickmakers Drive it would make vehicle and pedestrian movement through the area considerable unsafe due to the unpredictability of some heavy vehicle drivers and their blatant disregard for road laws. This was shown earlier in the year on Today Tonight prior to the introduction of the 5 Ton weight limited restricted being placed on the road. Vision clearly showed heavy vehicles moving through the area at speeds above the sign posted limits and running over garden bed kerbing designed to slow traffic speeds.

There are a number of potential health issues for residents associated with the proposed use of the site. Silica Dust is the basic component of sand and rock. Concrete, concrete block, cement, and mortar, masonry, tiles, brick, and refractory brick, granite, sand, fill dirt, and top soil all contain silica and are all recyclable waste products that may be processed at this proposed site.

Silicosis is a disease caused by the prolonged breathing of crystalline silica dust. Fine particles deposited in the lungs may cause thickening and scarring of the lung tissue. Crystalline silica exposure has also been linked to lung cancer and ultimately death.

A person may develop silicosis, depending on the concentrations of silica dust and the duration of exposure: Chronic silicosis - develops after 10 or more years of exposure to crystalline silica at relatively low concentrations. Accelerated silicosis - develops 5 to 10 years after initial exposure to crystalline silica at high concentrations. Acute silicosis - symptoms develop anywhere from a few weeks to 4-5 years after exposure to very high concentrations of crystalline silica.

Asbestos is a fibrous mineral that was widely used in Australia in the 20th Century for many industrial and domestic applications. Inhalation of asbestos fibres has been shown to lead to a number of serious health risks, including asbestosis and the cancer mesothelioma. Unfortunately, asbestos is also a highly toxic, insidious and environmentally persistent material that has killed thousands of Australians, and will kill thousands more this century.

Government waste policies state the detection of asbestos is an ongoing problem and challenge for the construction and demolition waste recovery market. It warns that “recovery operators who adopt the most stringent testing regimes and make all possible efforts to avoid any asbestos coming onto their sites cannot fully guarantee this is no asbestos fibres in their final products”<sup>1</sup>.

Due to their size and shape they can remain airborne for some time, and enter even the smallest air passages in the lungs where they embed in lung tissue. The fibres are highly resistant to removal by the lungs’ natural cleaning processes.

This project is inappropriate given its ongoing development as a residential estate with further potential developments that would enhance the local community recreational facilities through the development of the marina and improvements to the river foreshore and usability of the land for recreational activities.

Andrew & Tamar Milloy  
14 Bakewell Rd  
Moorebank NSW 2170

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<sup>1</sup> Department of Environment, Construction and Demolition Waste Status Report 2011