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The Hon Pru Goward
Minister for Planning, and Minister for Women
Level 34
Governor Macquarie Tower
1 Farrer Place
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Minister

Re: SSD 5855 - Banksmeadow Waste Transfer Terminal

Ashfield Council supports the proposal by Veolia Environmental Services (Veolia) to develop a new waste transfer terminal in Banksmeadow.

Ashfield Council is one of eight in the southern Sydney area to have entered into an agreement with Veolia for a new service, which includes using the proposed new Banksmeadow transfer terminal. Some of the Councils will deliver their collected general waste to the transfer station, where it will be compacted and transferred to containers for transport by rail to a new processing facility at Woodlawn (near Goulburn).

The eight Councils participating in this project are very excited at the prospect of:

- Reducing truck movements on Sydney's roads by establishing an eastern suburbs transfer terminal and moving the compacted waste by train.
- Reducing putrescible waste to landfill by over 54,000 tonnes.
- Helping to create up to 36 new jobs at the transfer terminal and at the Woodlawn facility.
- Helping to rehabilitate the former Woodlawn mine site.

The proposed transfer terminal at Banksmeadow is a critical element in moving towards this improved service and enabling Council and its seven partner Councils to contribute to the NSW Government targets (NSW 2021, goals 23, 19, 20, 5 and 3) as well as its 70% recycling target from the draft Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery (WARR) Strategy 2013-21. The new facility is an essential element in the management of waste in the southern Sydney area, and a key component in the solution developed by the eight Councils with Veolia.

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The proposed site is within the City of Botany Bay local government area, in the region covered by SSROC. It is adjacent to the Port Botany railway line, zoned as General Industrial within the State Environmental Planning Policy (Port Botany & Port Kembla) 2013. No waste will be processed or disposed of at Banksmeadow: it will be purely a transfer facility. Indeed, the site will be improved and any contamination left by previous site occupants will be managed appropriately.

More broadly, the proposed facility will provide Local Councils and business with a much-needed choice in determining their future waste management options. It will have the capacity to receive up to 400,000 tonnes of putrescible waste per year for transfer by rail, and up to 100,000 tonnes per year of non-putrescible waste for transfer to a proposed recycling facility in Camellia.

In summary, the Banksmeadow development is critical to Council's efforts to dramatically improve waste management in support of the government's targets under NSW 2021 and the NSW WARR Strategy. It has the potential to provide NSW with many other benefits, the development is rightly deemed to be State significant.

Yours faithfully



Vanessa Chan
General Manager