

MOSS VALE PLASTICS RECYCLING FACILITY -
APPLICATION NO SSD-9409987

I wish to state my opposition to this proposal. While I do not dispute the societal need for such a facility there are a number of matters which make the proposed site totally unsuitable.

In particular I wish to address 4 aspects of the proposal: the threatened species surveys, traffic and transport, air water and general pollution and water supply.

THREATENED SPECIES SURVEYS

Overall the surveys are desultory. In particular this criticism applies to Bird Surveys. Many bird movements are seasonal and others are irregular so a survey done on only 2 days in March 2021 is like having one piece of a large jigsaw – meaningless. I specifically note that the proposal states, “The Glossy Black Cockatoo was not sighted and the study area does not include suitable foraging material.” Contrary to this conclusion is the fact that I have seen Glossy Black Cockatoos in the study area.

TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT

This matter needs to be addressed in two parts. First, before the proposed access road between the proposed site and Lackey Rd is constructed and second, after (or if) the proposed access road is built.

Before the proposed access road is built access to the proposed site would be via Beaconsfield Road, Lytton Road and Parkes Road. Firstly these are all residential streets and secondly even a cursory inspection would reveal that the surfaces and drainages of these roads are incapable of withstanding heavy truck movements. The problem lies not only with the road surfaces but with inadequate foundations. These roads would need to be completely rebuilt to cope with heavy vehicle usage. Who would pay for that?

The idea of using any of these roads in the manner proposed is simply not feasible.

After (if) the proposed access road is built: I am using the assumptions made for predicting greenhouse emissions in the proposal, i.e. 140 staff per day 7 days/week; transportation of plastics to site 100 vehicles per day 5 days/week; transportation of plastic products from the site 100 vehicles per day 5 days/week. Each vehicle would travel both to and from the site resulting in 400 heavy truck movements per day 5 days /week plus 280 small vehicles per day 7 days / week.

The proposal does not properly address the effect of staff vehicle movements the vast majority of which will be along currently quiet residential streets.

The 400 heavy truck movements will, if they all keep to the theoretical route, traverse 2 level rail crossings creating 800 potential accidents each day. If the trucks do not keep to the theoretical route they will cause havoc in residential streets.

The only conclusion which can be reached in respect to transportation is that the proposed site is ill considered.

AIR, WATER AND GENERAL POLLUTION

The proposal identifies the primary pollutions expected as being:

- particulate matter from crushing, cutting and profiling plastics
- particulate matter, volatile organic compounds and odour from heating of plastics
- odour from waste water treatment plant

The proposal also identifies that in spring, summer and autumn wind is frequently NNE. That is it blows directly toward adjacent and nearby residential areas. The nuisance of odours and the serious health implications of particulate matter make this proposal untenable

Finally the supply of 46,300 litres of water per day to the proposed facility is not properly addressed.

The proposal is to use collected rain water and potable town water. With the population of Moss Vale planned to increase by 20% there is no guarantee of that supply.

I reaffirm my view that while I do not dispute the societal need for such a facility there are vital matters which make the proposed site totally unsuitable.

[REDACTED]