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## MOSS VALE PLASTICS RECYCLING FACILITY

Application No SSD-9409987

Location 74-76 Beaconsfield Road, Moss Vale (Lots 10 & 11 DP 1084421 and Lot 1 DP26490)

Applicant Plasrefine Recycling Pty Ltd

Council Area Wingecarribee Shire

Consent Authority Minister for Planning or Independent Planning Commission

### **PERSONAL CONSIDERATIONS :**

My home is the closest ( 180 m ) residence to this proposed development. I chose to live here 22 years ago because of the adjacent rural environment . I suffer from COPD, anxiety and depression.

Obviously I object in the strongest terms!

Until now, I thought being conscripted in 1964, before I was even old enough to vote, was the worst thing an elected government could do to a citizen.

Why should the prospects of a large commercial enterprise over ride the reasonable expectation of citizens to the peaceful enjoyment of community amenity?

This is still basically a small town in a rural regional area. While the concept behind this proposal is understandable, the very size of it is totally out of scale and inappropriate with its location; environmentally, physically, visually, logistically and socially!

I challenged the designation of this site in March 2019 and was not satisfied with the response received from WSC.

I was not contacted directly or personally by GHD in this current instance, and learned of the issue from my neighbours. We are a small but close community.

I have direct line of sight to the proposed development site.

The site is directly in line with my home to the prevailing wind. (I use the term advisedly, as our immediate environment is known as " Windy Hill."

Consequently , this and my proximity to the site, means a number factors, will impinge more immediately on me.

My objections are based on the following .

**ACCESS** – Beaconsfield Road should not be an option. It is one of just a few access roads serving a residential precinct which includes a Child Care Centre and two Schools. The Northern end is little more than a country lane. Narrow, twisting with steep drop offs and blind junctions to property driveways. Not constructed for heavy vehicles and sections of it offering no opportunity for widening. For the same reasons it should not be used in the construction of either the project itself, or an alternative access to the site.

The other access option of an Eastern extension of the nominal Braddon Road, will require intense engineering and a serious traffic hazard at the steep junction with Lackey Road.

#### **POLLUTION – Visual, Noise, Atmospheric, Light, Traffic, Waste and Social.**

**Visual:** The proposal includes two buildings of unprecedented scale in this area. No amount of articulation or architectural treatment will mitigate this blot on the landscape. The schematic indication of landscaping suggests an unrealistic understanding of the concept. The Southern Highlands is a tourist destination . This is not what people come to see, nor what locals should be expected to tolerate.

**Noise :** This is a quiet rural environment. Sound carries and reverberates across an open landscape, even voices.

A 24/7 operation of plant , equipment and vehicles , will introduce significant noise generation to this neighbourhood. Access road construction, and site development will also generate its share.

The proposed access road will have to climb in both directions to and from the site ; meaning gear changes, engine and brake noise will be more prevalent.

**Atmospheric :** Windy conditions in the Highlands broadcast dust and smell over large areas. The cement works, feed mill and our own shire tip are all upwind from Moss Vale centre, as is the proposed site. Site works and access road construction will generate dust and fumes at an undesirable level and over a long period.

Plastic particulate has apparently been known to be capable of penetrating the human placenta. Complete filtering of plant emissions must surely be a requirement difficult to achieve and monitor.

**Environmental :** The site embraces significant riparian corridors feeding the Wingecarribee River which contributes to Sydney's water catchment. Site works

alone will impact significantly on this eco system, and the 24/7 operation with attendant lights, noise, traffic and fumes will create a no fly zone for the many species of birds that call this area home. The putrid waste, attendant on recycled plastic before treatment, will however offer an encouraging environment to the kind of wildlife we don't need – vermin.

**Light :** One of the joys of country living is the experience of seeing the full beauty of the stars on a clear night.. Security, operational, site and traffic lighting on this scale will obliterate the night sky, no matter how directional the lighting system design is. Cloudy conditions reflect the light to the extent that already, with the modest development that exists in SHIP, I can read in bed without the light on!

**Taffic:** Douglas Road /Collins Road / Lackey Road is becoming a secondary bypass as well as servicing an increasing number of vehicles from existing industrial premises. The proposed access from Lackey Road is dangerously close to vehicles coming South over a blind rise.

Waste coming from catchments in the Eastern regions such as Illawarra, Shoalhaven etc . will surely come through Moss Vale town centre, which even now experiences periodic gridlock as a result of rapid development. Suggestions that this traffic will be required to come via Picton Road and Hume Highway does not recognise the likely reality.

Even if access is able to be confined to via Berrima Road and Douglas Road , there is the matter of the level crossing at the Cement Works. Traffic is growing along this road and the necessity for each vehicle to stop at the crossing causes delay and frustration.

The suggested access via Braddon Road will mean trucks, of as yet undisclosed type or size, and all other attendant traffic, will be grinding up a steep hill 80 metres from my home at all hours. This is a very personal objection but seriously significant.

## **WASTE :**

Again, the wind. Our own Council is unable to contain light weight waste, particularly plastic, within its perimeter. Barbed wire fences on properties downwind of the facility are festooned with plastic bags under windy conditions and remain unsightly for weeks.

The Plasrefine site is 7.7 Ha . The W.S.C. Resource Centre (tip) is approx.. 3.5 Ha. as measured using Google Maps area measuring function. Need I say more?

## **SOCIAL :**

One thing this proposal has done , is unite the community in defence of its expectation of a fair go. Outrage is not quantifiable , but it is an indication of the initial response from an increasingly large portion of the Highlands community on learning about this project.

Those of us close to the, site and its access routes, are already suffering anxiety and depression at the thought of all the above impacts and the prospect of reduced property value.

Speculation about issues such as pollution , increased traffic and environmental impact, which are only aspirationally addressed in the EIS, is preoccupying much of our time as is the sense of disappointment in the planning process.

**SUMMARY :**

These are my personal observation and accordingly not quantifiable. I am not an endangered species – just one in say eight billion – but I am unique, and would appreciate your acceptance of my protest as representative of a significant part of my community.

Thank you for the opportunity to register my anxiety. You are welcome to my home to gain a perspective not adequately described in any EIS.

Yours sincerely

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20. 03. 22.