



Western Sydney Parklands Trust

11 November 2020

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Mr Jim Betts
Secretary
Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
Level 29, 320 Pitt Street
Sydney NSW 2001

Attention: Sally Munk
email: sally.munk@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Sir/Madam

RE: Cleanaway's Western Sydney Energy and Resource Recovery Centre (SSD-10395)

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the application for the proposed Western Sydney Energy and Resource Recovery Centre, located at 339 Wallgrove Road in Eastern Creek. The site is within the Western Sydney Parklands.

The Western Sydney Parklands stretches 27 kilometers from Quakers Hill to Leppington covering 5,280 hectares through the three local government areas of Blacktown, Fairfield and Liverpool. The Parklands is one of the largest urban parkland systems in Australia and internationally and has an existing catchment of approximately two million people. The site is within the Wallgrove Precinct, as outlined in the *Western Sydney Parklands Plan of Management 2030*.

The *Plan of Management* identifies that the Wallgrove Precinct has the potential for the development of renewable energy and recycling opportunities within the precinct, long term land uses that will meet Western Sydney's needs and potential recycling and associated uses. This is not inconsistent with the proposed Energy and Resource Recovery Centre which is a long-term infrastructure land use that will benefit Western Sydney and provide innovative, sustainable solutions for waste. For this reason, the Trust does not object to the proposed land use.

However, the Trust considers that improvements to the proposal need to be made to support the long-term vision of the Parklands in this area, particularly in regard to the proposed road access.

A summary of the recommendations for consideration are provided at Attachment A. These matters are consistent with the Trust's representations to Cleanaway during project design to date or are in response to specific matters addressed by Cleanaway in the EIS.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the application for Cleanaway's Western Sydney Energy and Resource Recovery Centre.

Sincerely

Suellen Fitzgerald
Executive Director
Western Sydney Parklands Trust

Attachment A – Summary of recommendations and matters to be addressed

Alternative Site Access from the north

The proposed vehicular access from the southern end of the site is not considered to be the preferred access. The Trust has consistently advised Cleanaway that preferred access to the site is from the north. This was discussed at the Planning Focus Meeting for the project, held in October 2019, and is understood to be supported in principle by Water NSW and Property NSW.

The Trust considers that access from the north will consolidate heavy vehicle, waste trucks into the one location, which is consistent with the Trust's strategy to support long term infrastructure in this location. This approach will mitigate additional heavy vehicle impacts of waste trucks to the south.

The preferred road access is from the north-east of the site via the GRL site access road. The site access road would branch off the GRL access road, entering the northeast of the site, crossing the right of carriageway and entering the site at the north-east corner of the southern 6ha section, consistent with an option considered by Cleanaway and discussed within the EIS.

The Trust requests that Cleanaway progress discussions on the preferred road access to the north. Reasons provided by Cleanaway within the EIS to discard the northern site access are not considered to be valid and can be overcome. The Trust can facilitate any discussions on this access with adjoining government landowners if required.

Northern section of site

The EIS states that there are long-term plans to rehabilitate the land to the north, presumably the 2.04ha parcel north of the Right of Carriageway and return this land to the WSPT. In considering any land transfer the Trust will look to ensure that the land is free from contamination and does not place undue operational costs or other management expectations on the Trust.