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To: Christine Chapman <christine.chapman@planning.nsw.gov.au>
CC: Susan Hall <susan.aeo@bigpond.com>
Date: 14/03/13 4:45 pm
Subject: Southlands
Attachments: 7292Rev6.pdf; 7292Rev6.pptx; Part.003

Hi Christine

Thank you for your email. It seems strange that Orica directors are prepared to continue with their Southlands project when Orica has not yet contained the mercury from their former ChlorAlkali plant and mercury has been found off site. It is acknowledged that Mercury is present at Southlands, it is only the source, locations and concentrations that remain unknown.

At the CLC November meeting Mr Andrew Helps* provided members with background information about mercury. Mr Helps said that mercury travels great distances, (and independently to groundwater) adheres to dust particles, (as observed along roadways beside the BIP and up towards Pagewood School) volatilises during high temperatures, and then reforms.

Botany area residents and workers, as well as Orica directors, have every reason to be seriously concerned.

The Southlands Environmental Report noted that two soil test samples returned mercury findings so high they were considered an anomaly and dismissed. In the light of Mr Helps mercury information, these test findings at Southlands could have been legitimate results.

It would be irresponsible, (if not culpable) for Orica to commence work at Southlands without a new round of independent and extensive mercury tests. Orica directors have a "duty of care" to guarantee mercury is not present at Southlands nor likely at any future date.

all the best
Susan Hall

* Mr Andrew Helps is an international expert in mercury as acknowledged by the UN. Mr Helps also gave a mercury presentation at the EPA Mercury Forum Eastlakes Community meeting 7th March - The Eastlakes notes are attached