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Submitted by a Planner: no
Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Paul Moors
Email: moors@aapt.net.au
Address: 27 Rupert Street, Blackalls Park, NSW 2283

Content:
10_1039 - Awaba Landfill Extension

General Statement

For community assimilation and assessment of such a large number of documents, it is not possible to do so in the time allowed. I received notice of this project from a friend on October 11. Community consultation should allow ample time for the busy community to feel comfortable with it's understanding of the project. I have not been able to achieve this. My comments below are the best I could do in the time made available and focus on the matters which jumped out to me.

Dumping fees should be eliminated to discourage illegal dumping.

Waste Management Options

A greater focus should be put into creating a regional waste disposal centre for a number of Hunter councils using existing open-cut mine holes for this purpose rather than a plan for Lake Macquarie only?

Leachate containment and management and disposal.

There does not seem to be many details (other than Table 6.14) on the quality of leachate discharged at Rathmines into the Rathmines No. 6 WWPS. Or its effect on Lake Macquarie. The leachate should be treated to eliminate all components not of a natural origin. That is components that originate from synthetic materials or their degradation products.

Leachate used for spraying should be of the quality stated above and should not contribute to the pollution of the area sprayed and any harmful effects on the flora and fauna living on that area.

This project's waste water should not be treated in isolation. We already have enough man made waste going into Lake Macquarie from coal mining, power stations, human habitation etc. The aim should be to reduce this contamination and not to add to the total pollution load to Lake Macquarie.

Mine Subsidence

Both the main Project and the pipeline route are located in a Mine Subsidence District. Any costs associated with mine subsidence should be shouldered home to the miner causing the subsidence or the risk thereof. Under no circumstances should the community bear any costs arising from making profits for the coal miner, not even the costs of dealing with the Mine Subsidence board. As the prediction of mine subsidence is subject to uncertainty, mining under any part of the AWMF facilities (landfill cells and sewer pipeline route) should be prohibited. This prohibition should include any adjacent areas which may have some future impact on the AWMF facilities. These costs are already accumulating during the subsidence risk assessment being carried out. This should be stopped and mining in the vicinity of the project and pipeline prohibited.

Landfill gas

Landfill gas should be collected for power generation. The economics of this process should include the green-house penalties of fugitive emissions and flaring. Such penalties may be able to justify an auxiliary compressor installation for downtime of the main compressor.

Odours

The current wastesite can frequently be smelt on the road between from Toronto south. There should be a lifting of odour control and monitoring standards.

Biodiversity offset - Offsetting Assessments

In selecting appropriate areas for the biodiversity offset, the opportunity should be taken to ensuring, in perpetuity, a wildlife corridor from the mountains to the lake. To this end, and in addition to Lot 373, Council should take the opportunity to purchase Crown Land known as DP755218. For future conservation purposes the Council should also take this opportunity DP1149082 and DP1164232. These acquisitions together with the Awaba State Forest and Sugarloaf Conservation Area would facilitate establishing a permanent and working wildlife corridor for this area and be consistent with the Council's proposed conservation area.

Paul Moors 25 October 2012

IP Address: 202-159-158-82.dyn.iinet.net.au - 202.159.158.82

Submission: Online Submission from Paul Moors (comments)

https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com?action=view_diary&id=43164

Submission for Job: #4108 10_0139 - Awaba Landfill Extension

https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com?action=view_job&id=4108

Site: #2297 Awaba Landfill Extension

https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com?action=view_site&id=2297

Paul Moors

E : moors@aapt.net.au