



DOC20/792462-5

Ms Bianca Thornton
Industry Assessments
Planning and Assessment Division
Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
Locked Bag 5022
PARRAMATTA NSW 2124
Email: bianca.thornton@planning.nsw.gov.au

23 October 2020

EPA Response to SSD7401-Mod-1 - Bettergrow Resource Recovery Facility Wetherill Park

Dear Ms Bianca Thornton

Thank you for requesting the review by the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) of the Statement of Environmental Effects for the modification of the Bettergrow Resource Recovery Facility Wetherill Park (Application SSD 7401- Mod-1) at 24 Davis Road Wetherill Park on land described as Lot 18 DP249417.

The EPA has reviewed the following documents:

- Statement of Environmental Effects (SEE), Prepared by RPS Australia East Pty Ltd, 14 September 2020.
- Noise and Vibration Impact Assessment, Prepared by Global Acoustics Pty Ltd, August 2020.
- Surface water Assessment, Prepared by Eclipse Consulting Engineers, 1 September 2020.
- Erosion and Sediment Control Plan
- Air Quality Impact Assessment, Prepared by Advanced Environmental Dynamics Pty Ltd, 15 September 2020.
- Greenhouse Gas Assessment, Prepared by Advanced Environmental Dynamics Pty Ltd, 27 August 2020.
- Waste Management Plan, Prepared by RPS Australia East Pty Ltd

The EPA understands the proposed modification involves receipt and processing of up to 350,000 tonnes per annum (tpa) of waste materials. The proposed waste streams include hydro-excavation and drill mud/fluids, general solid waste, bulk landscaping supplies, garden organics (GO) or combined GO and food organics (FOGO); and other source-separated commercial and industrial (C+I) organics.

The proponent is also proposing to:

- Modify operations at site, including receipt of material and all processing activities to 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.

Phone 131 555

TTY 133 677

Locked Bag 5022

4 Parramatta Square

info@epa.nsw.gov.au

Phone +61 2 9995 5555

ABN 43 692 285 758

Parramatta

12 Darcy St, Parramatta

www.epa.nsw.gov.au

(from outside NSW)

NSW 2124 Australia

NSW 2150 Australia

- Demolition of site buildings to reconfigure plant equipment and shed structures,
- Install a large partly enclosed shed over the existing drill mud processing area for additional waste streams for processing, and
- Construction of a building infrastructure to service the development.

Based on the information provided, the proposal will require a variation of environment protection licence (EPL) number 21092 issued under section 47 of the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997* (POEO Act) for Scheduled Development works. Prior to commencing operations, the proponent will require an EPL issued under section 48 of the POEO Act to authorise the carrying out of Scheduled activities Waste Processing (non-thermal treatment) (clause 41), Waste Storage (clause 42) and Resource Recovery (clause 34).

The EPA has reviewed the SEE and notes that the SEE does not provide the information required by the Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) issued on 15 July 2020. The SEE did not include a list of conditions to be modified and proposed wording of any new or modified condition as required by the SEARs. This matter is discussed further below.

The EPA has the following additional comments and recommendations:

1. Matters to be addressed prior to determination

Industrial and commercial receptors not included in assessment

The Air Quality Impact Assessment (AQIA) has only considered residential receptors in the assessment of impacts, with the closest receptor (R01) 1500 m from the proposed facility. No industrial and commercial receptors have been considered.

EPA advise that a sensitive receptor is defined in the Approved Methods for Modelling and Assessment of Air Pollutants in NSW as a location where people are likely to work or reside and that future sensitive receptors should be considered.

The AQIA states that no additional exceedances are predicted at the identified receptors, however, there remains uncertainty regarding the potential impacts at the nearest receptors, which are industrial and commercial. Table A (AQIA, Appendix K) gives the maximum 24-hour PM10 concentration beyond the boundary as 4.7 µg/m³. However, the impact assessment criteria for particulates are applied at the nearest receptors, inclusive of industrial and commercial receptors.

The contour plots provided for incremental impacts in the AQIA are blurry and difficult to interpret. In addition, only three years of the maximum 24-hour measurements of background data have been provided and we note they are significantly different to each other. Therefore, any additional exceedances and cumulative impacts from the proposal at the nearest receptors have not been adequately assessed.

The EPA recommends the AQIA is revised to include:

- The industrial and commercial receptors in the complete assessment of air quality impacts.
- The background meteorological data be correlated against a longer duration database of at least five years and that the data adequately describes the expected meteorological pattern be established, the background air quality data should be contemporaneous to the meteorological determined to be most representative.
- Contour plots are presented that are clear to read and evaluate the impacts from.

2. Matters to be addressed with conditions

Identification of conditions to be modified and proposed wording of any new or modified conditions not provided

The EPA notes that a complete list of all the development consent (SSD 7401) conditions that require modifying was not provided with the SEE as required by the SEARs. In order for the EPA to properly assess SSD-7401-Mod-1 its recommended that a complete list of all conditions that require modifying as a result of the proposed modification to the resource recovery facility be provided for review prior to determination.

3. Minor matters

Lawfully use for finished products

The EPA notes that not all processed waste products identified in the SEE currently have an approved lawful beneficial reuse in accordance with a resource recovery order and exception. The proponent must ensure that there is a lawful reuse pathway for processed waste finished products prior to sale of these products. Please refer to current resource recover orders and exemptions at <https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/your-environment/recycling-and-reuse/resource-recovery-framework/current-orders-and-exemption>

The EPA is willing to engage with the proponent to discuss this matter further.

If you have any questions about this request, please contact Luke Davsion on 02 6659 8250 or via email at luke.davison@epa.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Scott Hunter
Unit Head Regulatory Operations