

**Major Projects – Request for Advice - Western Sydney Energy & Resource Recovery
Centre (SSD-10395) (Blacktown) EIS/HHRA
Feedback from Western Sydney Local Health District (WSLHD)**

Western Sydney Local Health District (WSLHD) submission on the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and the Human Health Risk Assessment (HHRA) prepared for the Western Sydney Energy and Resource Recovery Centre (WSERRC) (State Significant Development 10395)

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a submission on the Western Sydney Energy and Resource Recovery Centre EIS and HHRA.

The Public Health Unit has reviewed the EIS chapter on health risk and the Human Health Risk Assessment report provided. The Public Health Unit has relied on expert reports provided by the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment in preparing this submission. Comments and suggestions are provided below:

Technical detail

- A continual improvement commitment should be implemented over the life of the plant (35 years) to ensure that air monitoring/treatment technology upgrades are installed when available.

Air quality

- The report identifies that regional ambient air quality background levels of PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀ are already at or exceed National Environment Protection (Ambient Air Quality) Measure guideline values. Therefore, it is important that this project contributes negligible PM emissions.
- Although assessed incremental increase in particulates are low, any increase has the potential to cause increased health impacts and therefore it is important to use the best available emission control technology to minimise emissions.

Waste feedstock management

- Waste stream characterisation is not adequately discussed when comparing predicted waste feedstock in this proposal to the waste streams received at the reference facilities. Management and quality control of feedstock to ensure that it is consistent with the predicted feedstock on which air quality and health risk assessments have been based should be described in detail.

Health Risk Assessment

- The different air quality impact scenarios for various air quality regulatory limits described in the Air Quality and Odour Impact Assessment have not been assessed within the Human Health Risk Assessment Report. Estimates of exposure for health risk assessment should be based on the assessments of air quality.

Conclusion

Due to uncertainties about the feedstock and omissions of air quality scenarios in the human health risk assessment, the WSLHD Public Health Unit has been unable to verify the conclusions in the EIS/HHRA that there are no unacceptable health risks from short or long term exposures of air emissions.

Please contact Helen Noonan, Manager Environmental Health on 9840 3603 or via email at helen.noonan@health.nsw.gov.au if you would like to discuss further.