

OBJECTION to the proposal by IPL for another ammonium nitrate plant on KI

The Environment Impact Statement (EIS) on IPL's website states the "IPL **believes**" that it does not pose an unacceptable risk to local communities or the environment; the first sentence following this states that their choice of location was based on **safety** considerations. However, the list of criteria given for the selection of KI (as opposed to Warkworth or Tomago) has **absolutely no mention of safety reasons** – every reason cited is for economic profit and convenience.

As a long-time local resident, **safety** is my and my family's biggest concern. We already have other industries on KI which are causing pollution (air, water and noise) and the cumulative effects of adding another chemical manufacturing plant have not been addressed adequately by either IPL or indeed by whoever is responsible for the planning of port facilities.

IPL may consider the risk to be "acceptable" - to them – but it is certainly not acceptable to the members of my community, to be living within 800m of:

- A storage tank of anhydrous ammonia
- Storage of bulk and bagged ammonium nitrate (AN)
- Storage of ammonium nitrate solution

We already have Orica, which produces ammonia as well as these products and their safety track record speaks for itself. It is not good enough for IPL to say "provided precautionary practices are maintained throughout the operation" and "provided current best practices for transport are maintained by IPL" then they consider the risk acceptable. Their own words **"potentially dangerous goods"** give a clearer picture of the risks involved. I have **no confidence** whatsoever that IPL can maintain precautionary practices throughout their operations, and as for the best practices for transport – as recently as 20th September 2012, a truck carrying AN collided with a petrol tanker near Maitland. Nobody can control the traffic and other drivers. This should be a **huge wake-up call to the planning authorities**, because if the trucks had overturned and/or caught alight, the scenario could have been very different.

My opinion is that IPL has failed to address the Director General's requirements and a far more rigorous assessment is required, or it should be refused. IPL has not adequately addressed:

- The cumulative impact of their industry on our communities
- The real safety concerns of possible explosion risks, in both transport and storage

IPL needs to move their "potentially dangerous" plant to an area that is away from residential communities. **The risk involved with this proposal is absolutely unacceptable.**

I object strenuously to this proposal.

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