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To: "plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au" <plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>
CC: "nicholas.hall@planning.nsw.gov.au" <nicholas.hall@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 10/29/2012 2:17 pm
Subject: Incites Pivot's Kooragang Plant

Dear Sir,

I am writing to add my weight to the desperate request of all Novocastrians to prevent this ammonium nitrate plant from being allowed/developed.

My family - my wife and three daughters - live in Stockton and are well within a 2km radius of the proposed plant (let alone a 5km radius, which would take in most of central Newcastle and more than 50,000 residents). You will understand that the safety of my wife, 8 year old daughter, 5 year old daughter, and unborn daughter, are of paramount importance to me. It horrifies me to think that a second ammonium nitrate plant could be built so close to us.

It does not matter how small the risk of explosion is, that risk still exists and is unacceptable. I'm sure the risk of explosion in Toulouse, France, that killed 33 and injured thousands, was considered minimal too. And with the amount of ammonium nitrate they plan to store there, it would be a disaster of historic proportions, and the government would have our blood on their hands by allowing the plant to be built despite warnings and protestations.

Rather than allowing more polluting, dangerous industry to be developed, the government should be looking to remove existing such industry from populated areas and moving it to non-populated areas. We now live in a society which is far better educated and aware of potential dangers. Your job is to protect us, not give in to companies who care only about making money and care nothing for the lives of innocent people it will affect. I'm sure none of the Incitec executives would live in such proximity to one of their plants!

We need to be adopting a far more environmentally protective policy regarding industry, and this is neither friendly to the environment or the people living in it. The population of Newcastle is growing, and we want a clean safe city to live in - we do not want more industry creating more toxic pollution and presenting us with a mind boggling explosion risk.

Please imagine for a moment that your own children and loved ones are being exposed to more pollution which will exacerbate respiratory conditions and potentially cause cancer in years to come. They would likely be killed by an explosion on that plant, and you try to sleep each night knowing that your loved ones are facing such risks. Is this acceptable to you?

Please, please. Put a stop to this lunacy, this greedy company that have displayed no concern whatsoever for the residents of Newcastle. Then take the next step, and look at moving other dangerous industry (eg. Orica) away from densely populated areas.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Andrew Phillips BMed(Hons) FANZCA
Specialist Anaesthetist
Resident of Stockton
Concerned Father and Husband

Sent from my iPhone