

16th November 2020

Objection to Energy & Resource Recovery Centre – SSD-10395

Let's make no mistake this is basically a high temperature incinerator and power station. Coal fired power stations were shutdown in Sydney over 35 years ago, and these types of base load steam power stations should no longer be developed in Sydney, or any other location where there are residents nearby.

We object to this proposed development for the following reasons:

1. Increased Air Pollution

The project should only be approved if it can be demonstrated that there will be zero emissions from the plant both air emissions and prevention and elimination of any ground contamination. Currently all plants of this type overseas still produce some levels of toxic gases and green house gasses. The world is moving to zero emissions and we need to start now by not allowing any developments that emit on going pollutants into the atmosphere. If Australia is serious to moving to zero carbon emissions then the future needs to start with current projects. The project needs to adopt zero emissions technology by including sufficient wet and dry flue gas scrubbers, Electrostatic Precipitators, and sequestration to ensure there is no emissions from this plant. Technology is available today that can make these plants be totally safe and not emit any pollutants.

Increasing the air pollution in the Sydney air shed should not be allowed and the residents of Western Sydney health should not be compromised. There are residents living within 2 km of the proposed site and any prevailing wind is most certainly to contaminate the air quality at their homes.

2. Sydney's Water Supply Contamination

Sydney's main Water source from Prospect reservoir is only 2km away, and it would most certainly be contaminated by this proposed facility especially from westerly winds, ending up in the Sydney water supply.

3. Road Network Congestion

The submission claims the existing road network can be used for transport of the waste. The road network around the proposed plant is already congested and grid locked during peak hour traffic due to insufficient access to main roads. The M7 is also grid locked mornings and afternoon and no longer is a convenient and efficient way to travel, increasing large trucks on the road from this ERW facility will add further congestion and air pollution to the area.

Alternative Solution

Waste generated by Sydney residents and businesses is unavoidable, though efforts should be made by product providers to reduce packaging and provide more environmentally friendly alternatives.

It should be considered to build this type of plant at existing coal fired power plants that already have the infrastructure such as; turbines, switch yards, electricity grid connection, flue stacks, access roads, operating and maintenance staff, to integrate this type of plant into the existing plant. If the power stations is located in the Central coast are used then they can service all the Sydney and the central coast, and parts of the West. The capital and operating costs to integrate the EFW into the existing coal fired plants would be much less than a new plant, and the savings can be used to invest in the latest emission control technology.

Transport of waste from distribution hubs via B-Doubles can be scheduled overnight so not to contribute to the day traffic and be more efficient.

The coal fired plants already use biomass as a supplementary fuel and could possibly modify their existing boilers to accept this waste. Alternatively, the steam generated by the EFW boiler can be injected into the current steam

turbines at the lower pressure stages, this would offset the steam required to be generated by coal. Another option would to have the EFW only produce hot water to act as feed water heating into the existing coal fired boilers, EFW boiler would cost much less than the currently proposed system.