
Sent: Wednesday, 12 July 2023 4:15 PM
To: Records Department
Subject: [EXTERNAL] APPLICATION NO: DA2023/0130

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Dear Cumberland Council,

I am writing to express strong objection to the proposed Organic Waste Transfer Station at 109A Church Street in Lidcombe. With a family living in close proximity to the site, I am deeply concerned about the wellbeing of our community. In light of this, I urge you to give careful consideration to the following points before making any decisions pertaining to this application.

Location:

Although the proposed site falls within an industrial zone, its alarming proximity of less than 500 meters to residential homes, childcare centres, community centres, churches, schools, reserves and parks, raises serious concerns about the appropriateness of this development. A waste transfer station of this magnitude would have adverse effects on residential amenity, cherished public spaces and recreational areas nearby.

Traffic Issues:

The projected 118 daily truck movements through the heart of Lidcombe and its residential areas raises serious concerns about traffic congestion and road safety. Given the proposed transfer station's anticipated utilisation by councils across the Sydney metropolitan area, it is imperative to recognise the resultant strain on the Lidcombe road network. Further, the possibility of debris escaping from the trucks during transport poses an undeniable safety hazard that cannot be overlooked.

Moreover, the continuous heavy vehicle usage associated with the waste transfer station would undoubtedly be bound to inflict unwelcome impacts upon our local roads and roundabouts in the area. This would necessitate ongoing maintenance, which would further burden the Council's resources. Despite assurances of truck coverage, there is a realistic possibility of rubbish escaping the vehicles, posing environmental and health risks to the community, warranting serious consideration.

Hours of Operation:

The proposed operating hours, as outlined in the Environmental Impact Statement, extend beyond the limits set by the Cumberland Development Control Plan (DCP) for the Industrial zone. The significant deviation from the DCP's timeframes raises concerns about noise pollution, disturbance to residents during late hours, and the erosion of the established residential amenity. Such a disparity between the proposed operational times and the DCP guidelines is unacceptable.

Odour Control:

While the EIS and accompanying reports may claim to address concerns regarding odour control, there is no absolute assurance that odours emanating from the site can be effectively managed. The presence of foul odours during the transportation of waste to the site would have a detrimental impact on the local commercial entities in Lidcombe and diminish the quality of life for nearby residents.

Furthermore, there is a legitimate concern that the proposed waste transfer station could be expanded to handle various types of waste beyond organic waste. The potential for this development to evolve into a general waste disposal site, including recycling, green waste, FOGO, and even hazardous materials like asbestos, raises serious environmental and health concerns that must be addressed and monitored effectively.

As such, I strongly urge the Cumberland Council to reconsider the approval of Application No: DA2023/0130 for the proposed Organic Waste Transfer Station. The potential adverse impacts on traffic, road quality, residential amenity, and environmental factors are too significant to overlook. It is crucial to prioritise the well-being and quality of life of our cherished local community in this decision.

Yours sincerely,