

Sent:

Wednesday, 12 July 2023 8:00 AM

To:

Records Department

Subject:

[EXTERNAL] OBJECTION to DA2023/0130, Site: 109A Church Street LIDCOMBE NSW 2141: Lot 1 DP 778492

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Dear Sir/Madam

I refer to the above-mentioned development application ('DA'). As a local resident living at Lidcombe, I strongly **oppose** the proposed construction and operation of an Organic Waste Transfer Station (the 'Station') at 109A Church Street, Lidcombe.

Lidcombe is a highly populated residential area. If the Cumberland Council allows the construction and operation of the Station, the living quality of Lidcombe residents will decrease dramatically due to:

1. *Traffic congestion*

According to the Environmental Impact Statement ('EIS') for the DA provided on the Cumberland Council's website, the Station will operate Monday to Friday from 6am to 10pm and Saturday from 8am to 6pm. With approximately 59 large garbage trucks using the Lidcombe streets resulting 118 truck movements per day, no doubt the Station will bring more traffic jams and road accidents to Lidcombe which will put people's lives at risk.

Further, garbage trucks are frequently involved in road accidents. Below are some of recent garbage truck accidents from the media:

- On [3 April 2023](#), a garbage truck was crashed into a building at Lidcombe.
- On [31 March 2020](#), a garbage truck struck and killed a pedestrian at Doonside due to the truck driver failed to keep a proper lookout when he made a right turn.
- On [23 February 2021](#), a garbage truck hit and killed an elderly woman at Chester Hill as the truck driver was trying to do a 'hammerhead' three-point turn.

Given the narrowness of the road outside of the Station, it is unsuitable for large garbage trucks with a length of up to 20 metres. By allowing the Station to be built here would endanger the lives of local residents, drivers and pedestrians.

2. *Pollution and pest*

According to the EIS at page 40 and 41, the waste to be processed on the site will include food waste and garden waste. Waste of this nature could attract rats, cockroaches and other pests into the local area, which will pose significant health risks to Lidcombe residents.

Also, the waste stored on the site might enter our water systems due to storms and pollute our environment. There is no guarantee that the process of removing hazardous contaminants (such as asbestos (see EIS at page 36)) from the waste collected will not cause any soil erosion.

In addition, there will be noise and air pollutions from the garbage trucks and machines operating at the site. The tranquillity of our suburb will be negatively impacted.

Despite the site is currently zoned for industry use, unlike the current usage of the site (i.e. parking heavy vehicles and storage of general maintenance equipment (see EIS at page 27)), the Station is hazardous to its surrounding areas and degrades the living standards of Lidcombe residents.

3. Dust fumes and bad smell

According to the EIS at page 34, the Station will receive up to 80,000 tonnes of organic waste from various Sydney councils per year. There is no guarantee that the dust fumes and odours from the Station will be controlled. Not to mention that any waste fallouts from garbage trucks during transportation could pollute our roads.

With a such large number of garbage trucks driving through Lidcombe daily, the dust fumes and bad smell from the Station could extend well beyond the town centre of Lidcombe making the suburb uninhabitable for residents.

4. The proximity to residential, commercial and recreational areas

The Station will be located less than 100 metres from the nearest residential areas. The site is highly unsuitable for the Station with so many public and social housings located nearby. As a matter of fact, a multi-storey residential apartment is currently being constructed across the road to the proposed Station.

Also, the close proximity to schools (e.g. Lidcombe Public School and St Joachim's Catholic Primary School), childcare, aged care, parks and local businesses (particularly the restaurants) would could pose serious health and safety risks to our children and elderly people, as well as affecting local residents' enjoyment of the areas.

The value of our real estate properties in the Lidcombe will also decrease as a result of the Station. Nobody wants to live next to a rubbish tip.

5. Local residents will ultimately bear the cost (both psychologically and financially) of roadworks damaged by the ongoing heavy vehicle usage of the area.

As a residential suburb, the roads in Lidcombe are not designed for extensive use by heavy vehicles such as large garbage trucks with a length of 20 metres operating for long hours. This will significantly disturb the use and enjoyment of the roads by residents.

The costs for road repairs will ultimately be paid by people living in the Cumberland Council area, not the Station operator.

Finally, I believe Lidcombe is a residential suburb for people to live. It is not a place for any kind of waste processing and/or waste transferring. A facility of this nature should be built in an industrial area outside of the Sydney metropolitan areas with appropriate infrastructures. We all want a safe and clean Lidcombe to live in.

Therefore, for the sake of our local community, I would like to ask the Cumberland Council to reject DA2023/0130. Thank you.

Regards