

# Wyndham Landfill application for works approval

## My formal objection to the Application

My name is: [REDACTED]

I live at: [REDACTED]

As a resident of Melbourne's West and in one of the fastest growing corridors I am completely opposed to the Works Approval Application for expansion of the Wests Road Landfill made to EPA by Wyndham City Council.

I/we object on the following grounds:

1. The expansion will have a detrimental effect on me, ~~my family~~ and my community.
2. Such a large landfill will:
  - Be a blight on the landscape: a 25m – 30m high mountain of unsightly rubbish;
  - Smell (up to 3 km away);
  - Contaminate air and ground water;
  - Create a risk to community health and well-being;
  - Create a stigma telling the world that the Western suburbs are the dumping ground for everyone else's waste;
3. It will negatively impact the amenity and liveability of the thousands of new homes that will be built in the areas surrounding the landfill over the next few decades;
4. It will set a precedent for other quarries in the region;
5. It will encourage cheap waste dumping instead of recycling and resource recovery;
6. It will send the wrong message to industry and the community;

There are better, more sustainable Resource Recovery processes instead of landfill and these have been increasingly adopted around the world. Our future should not be determined on the basis of the short-term profits for the landfill industry. It should be determined by the needs of the community and the possibilities for more sustainable options within a practical time frame. This is not achieved by giving the landfill industry a 40 – 50 year approval to continue with out-dated practices instead of the resource recovery alternatives that now form the basis of government policy and community expectations.

I/we therefore ask EPA to ensure there is:

1. No 30-year+ expansion;
2. No Exclusion of community from decision-making as would occur if EPA approves the Application;
3. Recognition that there is no established "need" for providing such a long-term approval when there are proven more sustainable Resource Recovery processes instead of landfill which EPA should recognise as the real need;

4. Effective and early community involvement in the decision-making process – which is given lip-service but no substance in the case of this landfill;
5. Full transparency and accountability (also given lip-service but no substance);
6. Rapid reduction in landfilling and a rapid phase-out of above-ground landfills, especially within the Urban Growth Area
7. Government commitment (at all levels) to substantially expedite alternatives to landfill e.g. Waste to Energy, pyrolysis, composting and other forms of recycling and recovery.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the Application. I would appreciate the opportunity to participate in any future discussions and considerations of this Application.

I can be contacted at the above address or via email:

Yours sincerely

P.S. I am aware, from a person who lives in the Westleigh Gardens Estate that people who live there can frequently smell the Wests Road Landfill whenever the wind is blowing in the right direction, and sometimes it smells quite foul. People who live in a built-up suburb should not have to put up with this. I, myself, am also concerned about the stigma associated with the above-ground Landfill for Werrilee, especially as the landfill expands and can be increasingly seen from the freeway.

Sincerely