

SUBMISSION OPPOSING THE MRF IPSWICH STREET FYSHWICK
EIS.201700053

FOR THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF ACT PLANNING

I object to the construction of a huge waste transfer station and recycling facility at Fyshwick, a prosperous and populated area most days of the week. Most people in Canberra remember the Mitchell fire and the fires at Pialligo cement recycling site. These fires lasted several days, caused severe disruption to the community; cost a lot of money and used up valuable resources. The risk of a large waste fire at Fyshwick is completely unacceptable.

Waste fires are common occurrences. The two shareholders of CRS are not inexperienced with waste fires. At Access Recycling in Lithgow Street there have been seven fires in the last four years. In December last year at Mayfield in Newcastle a waste recycling facility owned by Benedict Industries caught fire and burned for several days. Dark toxic smoke covered the area and enveloped roads. The proprietor made a public apology as this was the second large fire at that facility in three months. Although no immediate cause was evident it could have been caused by the heat or spontaneous combustion in stockpiled waste. The cause is not the issue rather the fact that these sorts of fires are common, disruptive and costly to the facility and to neighbours. This is not something we want in Fyshwick.

A facility like this one if needed at all, should be located in Broadacre areas away from busy streets, commercial enterprises and residential areas so that the adverse impacts of potential and likely fires there will be minimised.

It was surprising to see in the Draft EIS that the developer addressed the issue of Bushfires in a detailed appendix but gave scant attention to the serious risks of large fires inside the facility. This needs to be addressed, along with many other issues that lacked detail, in a revised EIS.

Please advise the proponent that he must address the Scoping Document fully in regard to the risk of fire in the waste facility and to take account of the cumulative impact of fire in the adjoining scrap metal yard, integral to the rail freight to Port Botany.

Sincerely,

