

Submission on the draft EIS for the Proposed Material Recovery Facility in Fyshwick

The proposal for a Materials Recovery Facility to be located in Fyshwick is fraught with problems mainly in relation to the location of this facility.

Fyshwick is part of Canberra Central as described in the ACT Territory Plan and the material recovery facility is located at Blocks 9 and 11, Section 8 in Fyshwick. Fyshwick is zoned as IZ2 for mixed-use industrial purposes. As Fyshwick has developed, the level of retail outlets – mainly bulk retail – has grown to the point where this activity dominates the area. Retail outlets range from household goods through to hardware. This proposed Material Recovery Facility sits within this context and by its general nature is inappropriate for the surrounding business activity.

The proposal involves transferring Canberra's waste from a rural broad acre site at Mugga Lane tip that is several kilometres from the nearest homes to a dense retail and light industrial business area in Fyshwick. Furthermore the proposed site is in close proximity to nearby residential area. For instance, the CRS site is located less than 100 metres from residents in Fyshwick; only 570 metres from the Southside Motor Village on Canberra Avenue; and 730 metres from residences in parts of Narrabundah near Canberra Avenue. Furthermore, future developments such as the Eastlake Urban Renewal development and the Dairy Flat development by the Molonglo are not properly factored into this proposal. Indeed the Dairy Flat development is not referred to at all. Beyond being an inappropriate activity for the Fyshwick district, I consider the close proximity of residences to the proposed site brings too greater risk – in the form of risk of fire, risk of ground water contamination, increased traffic congestion, odour and noise impacts – to allow this proposal to stand.

The location of CRS's proposed Material Recovery Facility also conflicts with the *Market Sounding to Industry* and the *ACT Waste Management Strategy (2011-2025)*. In this latter document it states, *inter alia*, that major new waste infrastructure will primarily be located in the Hume Resource Recovery Estate beside the Mugga Lane Resource Management Centre and that the Hume Resource Recovery Estate is being developed in conjunction with the Mugga Lane Resource Management Centre as a recycling estate housing a range of facilities.

Hence I consider that the location of this proposal for a Material Recovery Facility in Fyshwick is inappropriate and should not proceed. It is inconsistent with stated ACT government policy for a Waste Hub in Hume; it is too close to nearby residential areas; and it is an inappropriate activity within the context of business activity within Fyshwick.

