



Broadmeadows Progress Association
Hume / Moreland

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Mrs. E Kosanovic

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Presentation
Inquiry Into Victoria's Recycling and Waste Management System
August 6th, 2019

Chairman
Mr Cesar Melhem
Panel Members

My name is Sonja Rutherford and the assistant Secretary of the Broadmeadows Progress Association (BPA). I was a foundation member of the Association which was formed in August 1971.

The General Objectives of the Association are

- To foster and develop a spirit of Community
- To ensure the progress and development of the district
- To protect the interest and welfare of residents.

Over the past 49 years the Association has taken up issues of concern with all levels of Federal, State and Municipal Government.

The Association has been actively involved in various campaigns around the health and welfare of residents relating to waste disposal, noise and air pollution.

These include;

- Through our membership of the "Council of Progress Association of Victoria" in the late 1970's, we were part of the successful campaign to established the Clean Air Council of Victoria.
- **A successful community campaign calling on the Victorian State Government to stop the establishment of a liquid waste dump in an unused quarry in Camp Road Broadmeadows 1979 –1980.**
- Together with residents of Tullamarine, taking actions to control and finally close the Cleanaway toxic liquid waste dump in Tullamarine near the Airport. Issue still active today regarding capping and leaching
- Together with residents of Fawkner campaigning to close Nufarm's production of Agent Orange components and seeking redress for the resulting cancer suffers in the area. Plans to build on top of the old site is currently being opposed by Fawkner residents.

- A five year campaign, starting 1971, to stop the State Government's construction of Housing Commission Homes under the Flight Path of the new Tullamarine Airport This was contrary to Federal Government's Noise Exposure Forecasts (NEF) recommendations.
- Members participating in the Ford Company's Community Advisory Committee in the 1980s. They expressed concerns with the abandonment of the rail link to Geelong and the development of triple trucks to meet their new "Just in Time" method of production.

As a consequence of this new production method, Ford insisted that all packaging of components be returned to the providers. Reusable packaging resulted.

- A member of the Association in 1985 achieving a Churchill Scholarship to study the tragic incident in 1984 of the Union Carbide plant in Bhopal, India, where 30 tons of toxic gas, Methyl Isocyanate was released causing immediate deaths and long term health issues killing estimated total of 16,000 community members.
Her report back shocked members and deepened their understanding of the need for communities to be vigilant.

These activities made members of our Association and residents of Broadmeadows very aware of the need for stringent controls and effective policing to protect the community from commercial ventures.

These activities have also taught us that we cannot just leave the wellbeing of the community to commercial interests or the vigilance of Government Department and Authorities. The community must take an active part and be recognized as having valuable input into matters affecting our environment, health and quality of life.

The Patullos Lane fire 2015 Crumb Tyre fire in 2016, SKM major fire 2017, the Bradbury fire 2019, and the discovery of millions of litres of illegally stored chemical waste in our area is of growing concern to residents.

With each event the residents are becoming more aware of the real threat to our lives and are increasingly dismayed with the ineffective regulations and inactions of Government Authorities and Municipal Councils.

The reason that I and other residents are alive and healthy today is solely due to the climate conditions at the time. The fire plume went up and not down.

Our survival and health should not depend on the luck of climatic conditions of the day.

The current crisis in waste recycling creates the threat of fire but also threatens the air we breathe, the waterways and our general environment.

The lack of effective regulations and enforcement has provided fertile ground for Illegal operators to flourish and for legal operators to cut corners for their commercial interest with total disregard for the consequences.

From our experience at a local level and our attendance at the Fire Recovery Meetings we would like to make the following observations and opinions.

- The concept of "self-regulation" in Victorian recycling and waste management system has not worked in the community interest and must be replaced with a regulated system under stringent Government control.
- The storage and processing of toxic, hazardous, and general waste to be away from residential areas.
- The latest technology be developed and adopted to recycle waste.
- That cooperation and joint actions between relevant Government authorities be encouraged and resourced.
- That Municipal Councils granting of permits for these types of operations be in consultation with other authorities.
- That there be a central data base on the behaviour of operators that can be, and in fact required to be, accessed by all Councils and relevant authorities.
- That Municipal Councils be required to employ increased numbers of suitable trained staff in the area of waste management.
- That there be frequent unannounced checks on permit compliance.
- That there be a simple direct process for the community and authorities to address issues when they arise and have them acted upon.
- That the community be recognized and encouraged to participate in reporting Rogue operations and be fully informed of the resolution.
- That the producers of waste be made responsible for its safe disposal and a system be developed to ensure this occurs.
- That the manufacture of long lasting and repairable commodities be encouraged by Government.

I hope that the matters I have raised on behalf of members of the Association and the community are given serious consideration and form part of the final recommendations.

Sona Rutherford
Ass Secretary
Broadmeadows Progress Association



VICTORIA

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PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(HANSARD)

FORTY-EIGHTH PARLIAMENT

SESSION 1979-80

Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly

VOL. CCCL

[From March 26, 1980, to April 24, 1980]

MELBOURNE: F. D. ATKINSON, GOVERNMENT PRINTER

23495/80
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disposal and a conventional garbage tip would have environmental effects similar to the present proposal.

In my view, and in the view of others, that is a very adequate report designed to assist the council in reaching a decision about what it should do for the planning permit for this particular quarry and disposal site. To have it said that nothing has been done about any assistance in the environmental field is just not true.

I stated earlier that the matter could have been handled much better from the start by those who were responsible for the negotiations. As I have said, the quarry is an ugly sight that does no credit to the City of Broadmeadows and is of no benefit to the people opposite. It is an ugly, dirty, dusty pit which has the potential, after it is filled, to become a pleasant, treed space for active or passive recreation.

A few kilometres up the road is the Broadmeadows tip itself, which is doing precisely what is requested to be done at this tip—by the Broadmeadows council.

The Hon. A. J. Hunt—Which has been very responsible.

The Hon. R. J. Eddy—That is not true.

The PRESIDENT (the Hon. F. S. Grimwade)—Order! I ask honorable members not to interject.

The Hon. W. V. HOUGHTON—One can hardly resist rising to the bait when Mr Eddy said that the Broadmeadows Council had not been responsible, but I shall desist from rising further. I am making the point that the potential exists to improve the environment and the quality of life of the people who are objecting considerably. I have put that to those people and I think they agree. But there is a strong feeling amongst a group of residents that what is proposed at this tip is an alternative to what was proposed at Dargile and no amount of persuasion—certainly not by any member of the Government party and I would have hoped all supporters of the Opposition interested in gaining achievements for this site would try—has convinced some of the people in the

deputation that the intended use of the tip is not an alternative to Dargile. Of course, people would be emotionally upset if they considered that that sort of industrial liquid waste would be put into this tip. The Health Commission, in issuing the licence to operate the tip, has indicated that it is possible to deal with the environmental problems—otherwise, the licence would not have been issued.

The matter is now at a stand-off position. A licence has been issued. The council is faced with giving a planning permit. In order to delay, and I think for other reasons, the council is asking for further information so that it can make a decision. Every time it is provided with a bit of information, it asks for another bit of information—to put off the decision of the planning permit. But when the council makes the decision, obviously it will be faced with the procedures available to anyone—to the company and to the population—to object to the decisions that have been made. The result will be a long, drawn out and inappropriate set of legalistic procedures which should be avoided. What I am doing currently—when I am being accused of not doing anything—is to ensure that some arrangement is made between everyone concerned which will make this site what it ought to be. That will involve some inconvenience for those living in the area for a period of slightly upwards of five years. If that is not worth putting up with, bearing in mind that there is a tip farther up the road doing the same thing and that there is a dirty hole opposite, for an increase in the quality of life and in the value of property, then people have funny ideas of what is worth while. I shall continue to do what I can. I believe I can do more than anyone else in the House for the people of Broadmeadows concerned about the particular environmental effects of that proposal.

I shall deal now with another vital and important aspect—the matter of the Newport power house and the determinations of the Newport Review Panel. Within a week of becoming the Minister for Conservation, I drew attention to this matter. It concerned me very much that to that date, so far as I was aware

5-12-79

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BROADMEADOWS PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

Minutes

Allison Lee reported on developments in the campaign against the establishment of a liquid waste dump in Camp Rd, Broadmeadows.

Miss Lee reported that hundreds of objections had been lodged with the Health Commission objecting to the granting of permit for the establishment of the plant.

Allison further reported that the hearing to consider the residents objections to the granting of a permit would be held on the 13th December 1979 at 10 AM, 11th floor conference room 555 Collins St, Melbourne.

It was reported that a meeting of residents would be held on Thursday 6th December to work on tactics for the December 13th meeting.

Resolved on the motion of Keith Vandome and Jill Godkin "that the report be received."

GENERAL BUSINESS

Resolved on the motion Mrs Crockett and Mrs Van Meursden "that a further discussion be arranged with Mr Steve Gore Planning Officer for the B.C.C. to resolve the problem of large freighter trucks cutting across the medium strip in Kyabram Street, Broadmeadows."

hoped would be non-controversial. He has continued to embarrass the Government by making problems rather than solving them.

Let me start with the issue of trade waste. I do not intend to dwell at length on any of these issues because in themselves they are not the subject of the debate; the debate concerns the Minister's lack of competence. The first issue to which I refer is the disposal of intractable trade waste—a very dangerous material—which was canvassed at length in October last year.

The Minister has had almost a year—and I point out that this was an election issue that was canvassed because of the proposal to build a disposal plant at Dargile—to begin a positive programme on one of the most urgent environmental issues we face. He has done nothing. He took cover for a short period in the fact that a ship called the *Vulcanus* was to come to Victoria to be used to incinerate trade waste—not at the Minister's request but because people in private enterprise were at their wits' end over this problem. That ship is not now coming.

The Minister refused to take advice on this issue from his inter-departmental committee, which made four reports, the fourth of which has still not been released. It was completed last June, and even today, when I rang to see if I could obtain a copy—as I do almost weekly—I was told that the report is still under wraps. The advice contained in that report is the sort of advice that the Minister should take. The report is available to the Government, but certainly not to the Opposition or to the public.

The Minister refused to take advice as long ago as 1972 when the answer to the problem of the disposal of intractable toxic trade wastes was believed to be based on the building of one or two incinerators in or near the city to handle the bulk of the waste. The Minister refused to take action in that regard. More seriously, he refused to take the advice of the industry.

The Hon. A. J. Hunt—Do you suggest that incinerators are the sole answer?

The Hon. E. H. WALKER—It was suggested in the 1972 report, which was tabled in 1973, that regional incinerators should be constructed. It has also been recommended since then.

The Hon. A. J. Hunt—Intentionally or unintentionally you presented it as though they were the sole answer.

The Hon. E. H. WALKER—I did not do so intentionally. I indicated that an incinerator of the kind of which the Minister is well aware would handle the bulk of the problem. I agree there are other answers, but there has been no action on any of those answers by the Minister for Conservation.

Honorable members will be interested to know that companies and businesses that create this sort of highly toxic intractable trade waste are willing and have offered to pay for the use of such a facility. They are even willing to make capital funds available and to help in the construction if the Government will take the initiative, but the Minister has refused to accept that offer. He has refused to take the advice and accept the opinion of his predecessor, who has said in public that he is in favour of Government-funded incineration. That is a clear example of dereliction of duty on the part of the Minister for Conservation.

As I have said on many occasions, very dangerous material is stored in drums around the city. I have made it clear that if those drums were to be mishandled or corrode and the material were to escape, the result might not be only serious pollution, it might mean death to some people. It is my view that the Minister is so stubborn that he will not act until a death occurs. That is, to say the least, regrettable.

I shall now outline specific cases of sheer incompetence and pig-headedness on the part of the Minister. The first example is the proposal by United Disposal Services Pty Ltd to establish a liquid trade waste disposal plant in a disused quarry in Camp Road, Broadmeadows. That would be a perfect case for a Ministerially-required environmental effects statement. It is not as though the Opposition has not brought up the matter many times. Mr Eddy has

directed it to the attention of the Minister on no fewer than five occasions. On 9 October—this is reported at page 2945 of *Hansard*—Mr Eddy asked the Minister for Conservation, in essence, the following question:

Has the Environment Protection Authority issued a licence for United Disposal Services Pty Ltd to construct the plant in Camp Road, Broadmeadows?

The answer from the Minister was an admission that he was not sure what the honorable member was referring to. He said he knew of a disposal dump in Tullamarine and another in Broadmeadows but was not sure if it was the dump referred to by Mr Eddy. On 30 October Mr Eddy asked the Minister whether he had approved a request from Broadmeadows City Council for an environmental effects statement. The local council had asked for such a statement because it was worried. The Minister, in rather circuitous fashion, said, in essence, that if the company were agreeable there would be no impediment.

On 31 October, the next day, Mr Eddy asked whether the Minister would request an environmental effects statement, as he was empowered to do by the 1978 Act. The Minister again answered rather circuitously and said he would be prepared to examine the proposition. On 14 November Mr Eddy asked, in essence:

Has the Minister received correspondence from the Broadmeadows City Council on 17 October in which the council asked the Minister to exercise his power, and will the Minister, as the responsible Minister, exercise that power?

The Minister answered, *inter alia*:

I have received the request. . . . No decision has been made.

Finally, on 21 November, Mr Eddy asked, in essence, whether a report had been prepared. In part, the Minister answered:

The matter is subject to a whole range of planning procedures. There are environmental concerns which are of a fairly low level priority. If there is any way in which I can help the honorable member in this matter I invite him to discuss it with me.

I then interjected:

You can require an environmental effects statement.

The Hon. E. H. Walker

The Minister replied:

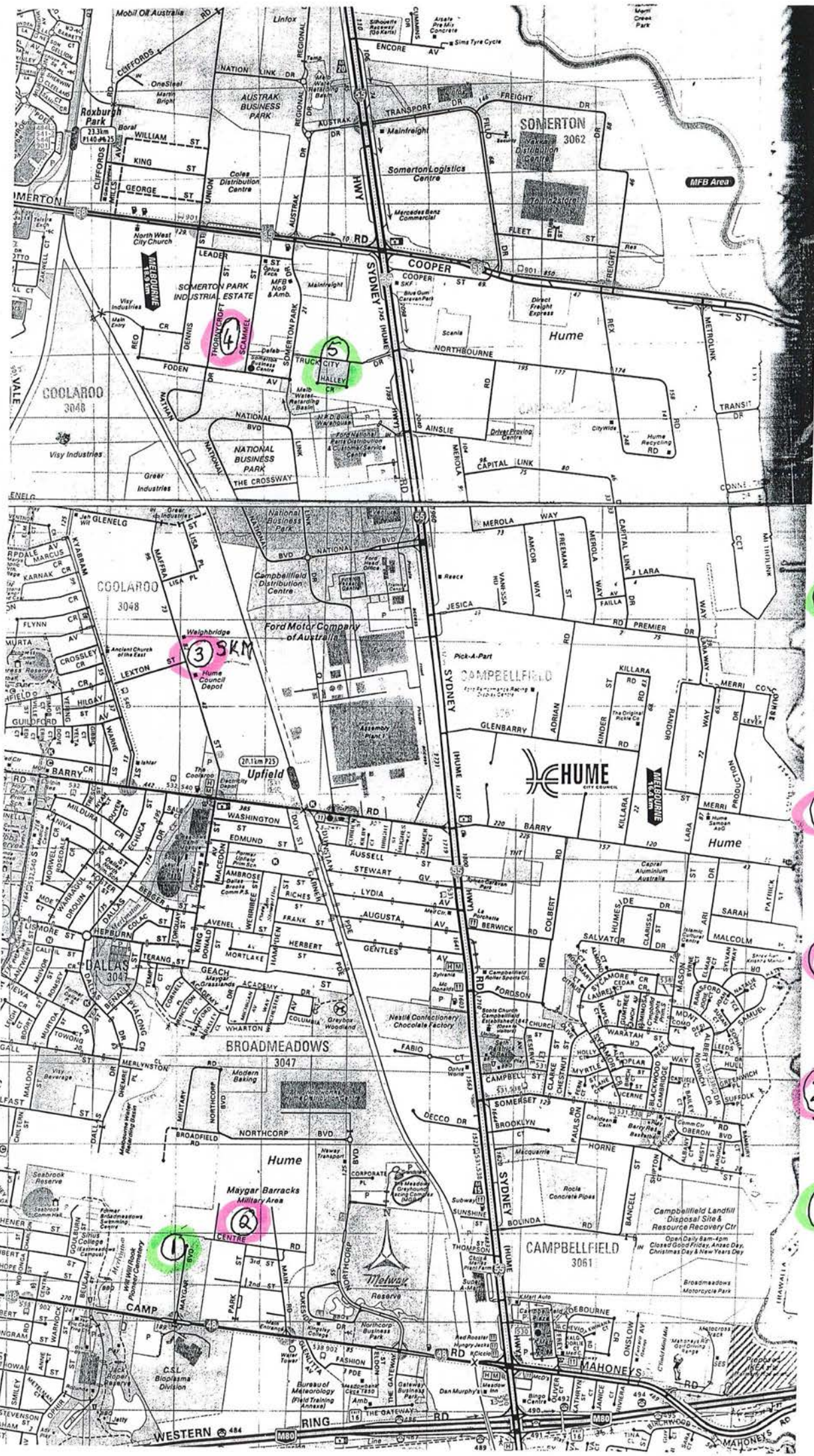
I could, but I do not intend to do so.

That was an absolute refusal by the Minister in a case that was patently the sort of case in which an environmental effects statement was vitally necessary. It has all crashed around the Minister's ears. A week or so ago, 750 people arrived outside the House to demonstrate on the issue. Their major concern was that the proposal was for the dumping of toxic trade wastes, which, although not intractable, were of a kind that would cause public nuisance. The people were worried because the proposed site was close to houses. The Minister has persistently refused to take the action available to him. That is irresponsible. I believe he has now changed his mind but is not sure how to get over the problem.

Ministerial duties are onerous, but they must be handled responsibly. That issue has not been handled responsibly. Despite the fact that the Minister has received much advice on the issue and has been told by the company that it would be happy to have an environmental effects statement prepared, the Minister has persistently refused to follow that course. I believe that shows pig-headedness of a sort that should not be shown by a Minister. He should be removed from his position.

Another example involves a cover-up by the Minister of an issue that was canvassed in the House late last year. Honorable members will remember the fiasco of the application by Beach Petroleum N.L. to drill for oil in the Gippsland coastal park. As I mentioned earlier, I do not intend to canvass these matters as individual issues, I am merely indicating the way in which the Minister has handled them. The Minister clearly endeavoured to cover up advice he received in a letter from the Chairman of the National Parks Advisory Council. The Opposition had to force the Minister to table the document and he did so only because the issue had been canvassed by journalists in the daily press. If the Opposition had not taken that course, no one would ever have understood what had occurred.

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5 Bradbury permit application 15-5-18.
Advert Plan 29-11-18

4 Bradbury Fine 4-9-19

3 SKM Fire July 2017

2 Crumb Tyre Fire Jan 2016

1 Eco 1 Site

3

Merlynston Creek and Jack Roper Lake
Closed on July 2017 reopened July 2018
Closed April 2019 due to pollution again.
Still closed.





eco1
household recycling centre

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W. ecorecovery.com.au

Waste Disposal

- Car Boot '25
- Vans '49
- Utilities And Single Axle Trailer (Waterline) '79
- Single Axle Trailer (heaped) '139
- Tandem Trailer (Waterline) '139
- Tandem Trailer (heaped) '229
- Caged Trailer Single Axle '139
- Caged Trailer Single Axle (heaped) (Up to 2m) '199
- Caged Tandem Trailer (Up to 3m) '299
- Caged Tandem Trailer (heaped) (Up to 4m) '399

NO HAZARDOUS MATERIALS AND CHEMICALS, NO FOOD WASTE

- Green Waste/Clean Fill/Concrete/Brick/Tiles
Single Axle Trailer '59
- Tandem Trailer '99
- Mattresses (Any Size) '29
- Car Tyres (Up to 1m Diameter) '10
- Car Tyres On Rim '21
- Truck Tyres '45
- Tractor Tyres '254

Open 7 days a week:
Monday-Saturday 8am-3:45pm, Sunday 8am-1pm
Closed on Public Holidays



LUBER

TRANSFER STATION
→

Clive
Cycling Centre

Opening of Eco 1 October 2018

Opened by Hume Mayor Cr. Porter

Welcomed Moreland Cr Oscar Yildiz



Eco 1 Waste Recycle Centre added 8 new photos to the album **Eco1 Official Opening — at Eco 1 Waste Recycle Centre**
6 November 2018 · 🌐

Opened by Major, Cr Porter in October 2018



Eco1 Official Opening
8 photos

MELBOURNE'S NEWEST & MOST AFFORDABLE TIP RECYCLING CENTRE

Mixed Waste Disposal	Green Waste/Clean Fill/Concrete/Brick/Tiles
● Car Boot	'25 Single Axle Trailer
● Vans & Utes	'69 Tandem Trailer
● Single Axle Trailer (medium)	'79 Individual Items
● Single Axle Trailer (large)	'29 Mattresses (Any Size)
● Single Axle Caged Trailer	'9 Car Tyres
● Tandem Trailer (medium)	'18 Car Tyres On Rim
● Tandem Trailer (large)	'29 Truck Tyres
● Tandem Trailer Caged (up to 10m)	'69 Tractor Tyres
	'249 Batteries (Car/Truck)
	FREE Gas Cylinder
	'29

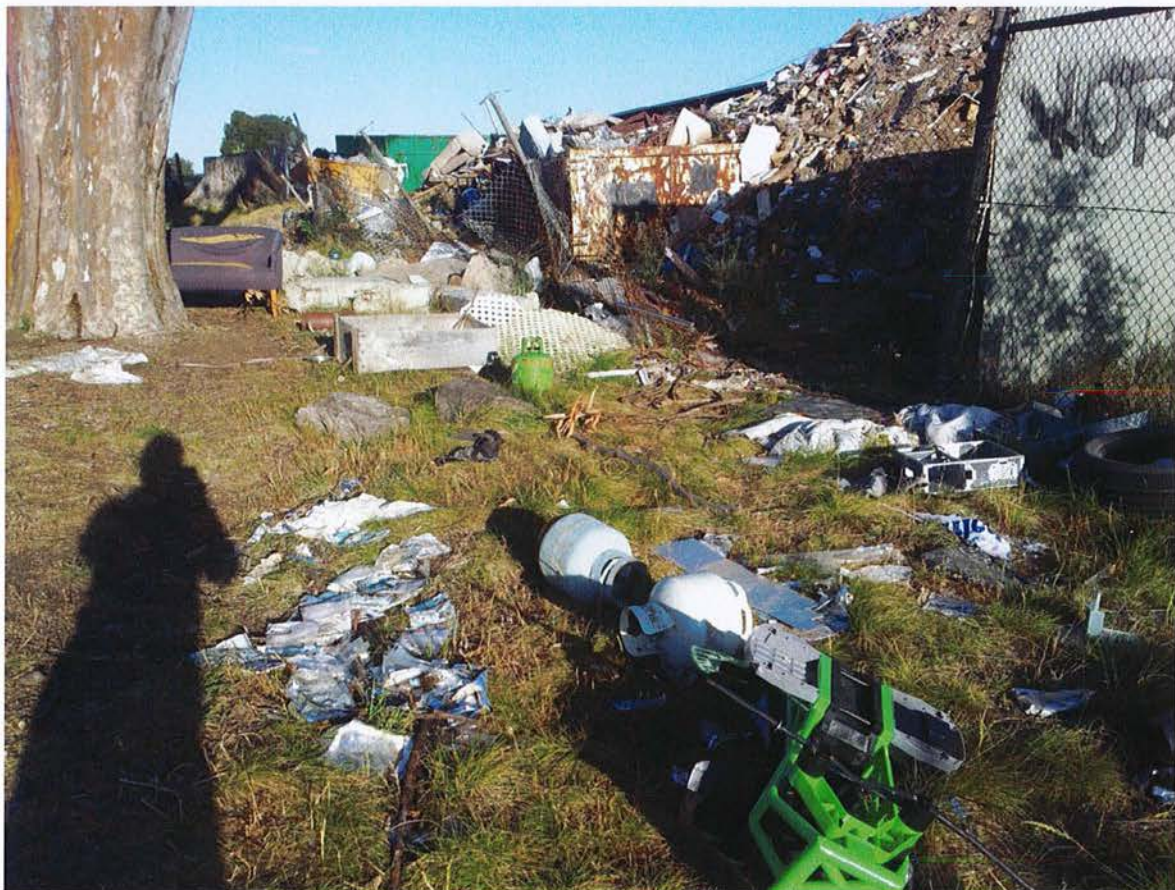
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W. eco1recovery.com.au

eco1
household recycling centre

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Open 7 Days a Week
Mon - Sat 8am - 5pm, Sun 8am - 1pm
Closed on Public Holidays

SCR GROUP

Eco 1 Back Fence Bordering
Will Will Rook Heritage Cemetery Parkland
October 2018







5

PERMISSION – SITE AND PROPOSED USE

1825 Sydney Road CAMPBELLFIELD VIC
PLAN NUMBER: Lot 1 TP212989
ZONE: IN1Z Industrial 1 Zone

HUME CITY COUNCIL
Received on
15 MAY 2018
IN2018/19486
by STATUTORY PLANNING

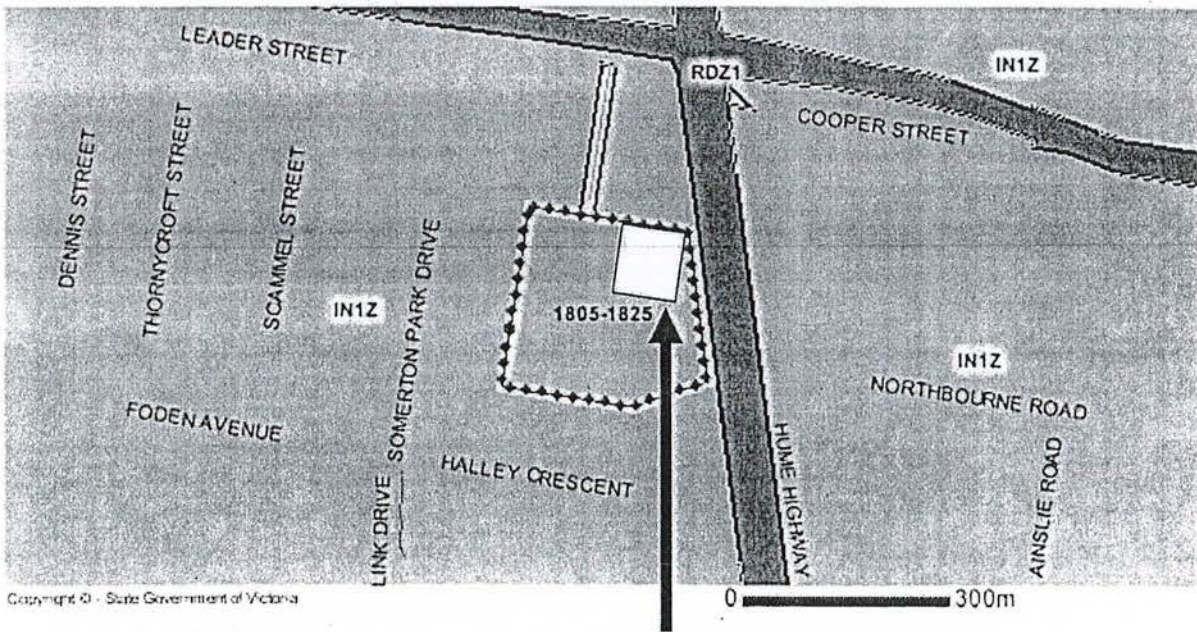
ADVERTISED PLAN
3 of 6
inclusive
Date: 29-11-18

erty

The subject site is one of the tenancies located at 1805-1825 Sydney Road, Campbellfield which is on the east side of the roadway and positioned along Hume Highway. The subject site, which is on the north-eastern corner, consists of a warehouse and adjoining office building. It is part of a larger section of land, with other tenancies present on the lot.

Under the Hume City Council Planning Scheme, the subject site is located within the Industrial 1 Zone (IN1Z). An extract of the relevant zoning map, with the area for the proposed use outlined in white is provided below;

INDUSTRIAL 1 ZONE (IN1Z)
SCHEDULE TO THE INDUSTRIAL 1 ZONE (IN1Z)



Location of proposed use to be within Industrial 1 Zone (IN1Z).

Description of Proposal

This site consists of a vacant warehouse and office building.

This document is made available for the sole purpose of enabling its content to be used as part of a planning process under the Planning and Environment Act 1987. It may be used for any other purpose.

Planning permission is sought from the responsible authority, Hume City Council, to allow for the change of use to include storage of dangerous goods.

Approval is sought for the proposed change of use which will incorporate the storage of dangerous goods (Class 3 flammable liquid) in intermediate bulk containers and drums in a part of the warehouse.

6



SAILABILITY!

Somewhere in Broadmeadows there is a beautiful little lake where four old blokes with a sailing background are running a programme called 'Sailability North'.

As the name implies 'we are sailing', but not by ourselves. Our main aim is to provide a different experience to students from disability services. We take our students, teenagers to young adults of different mental abilities, into little sailing boats and give them the basic idea of sailing – or, if they are that way inclined, take them out for the experience of sitting in a sailing boat and cruising about on the lake. Our boats are sturdy little sailing boats, which are neigh impossible to capsize – which is very good to know in our endeavours.

We are confident that our program is appreciated by our clients as a very regular attendance of up to a dozen students and their carers show up each Thursday morning during school times.

Sadly we have been closed down a few times over the past few years by EPA because of heavy pollution of the waters of Jack Roper Reserve lake (our venue) (SKM fire and general waste pollution).

But we are hopeful, especially with spring and sunnier weather coming up, that the lake after the recent good rains will be opened up again and our students (and us!) can enjoy ourselves having our little nautical experience.

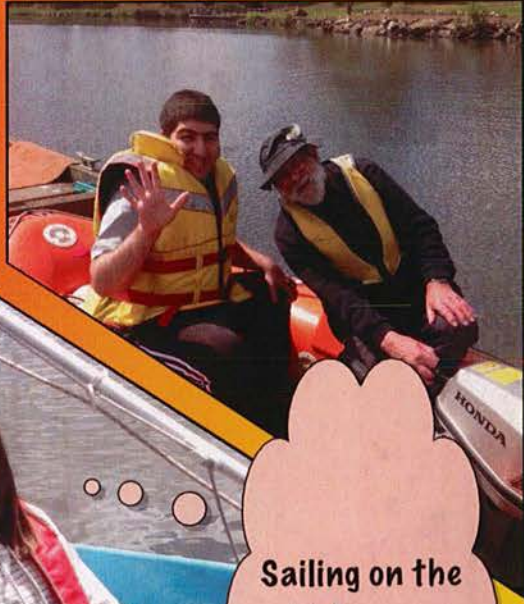
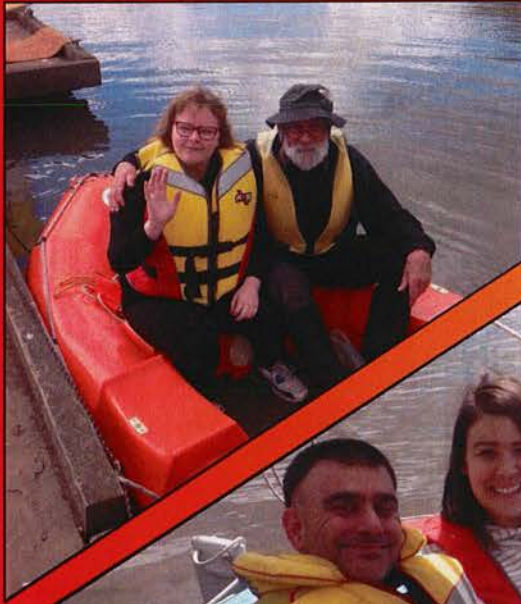
Thank you,

Koos Soeterboek
Secretary
Sailability North

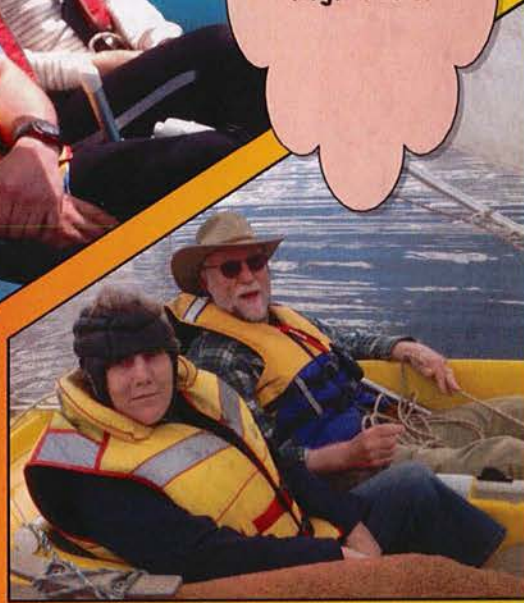
Merlynston Creek and Jack Roper Lake
Closed on July 2017 reopened July2018
Closed April 2019 due to pollution again.
Still closed.



Sailing



Sailing on the
high seas.



The Atlantic

Bhopal: The World's Worst Industrial Disaster, 30 Years Later

ALAN TAYLOR | DEC 2, 2014 | 28 PHOTOS | IN FOCUS

Thirty years ago, on the night of December 2, 1984, an accident at the Union Carbide pesticide plant in Bhopal, India, released at least 30 tons of a highly toxic gas called methyl isocyanate, as well as a number of other poisonous gases. The pesticide plant was surrounded by shanty towns, leading to more than 600,000 people being exposed to the deadly gas cloud that night. The gases stayed low to the ground, causing victims throats and eyes to burn, inducing nausea, and many deaths. Estimates of the death toll vary from as few as 3,800 to as many as 16,000, but government figures now refer to an estimate of 15,000 killed over the years. Toxic material remains, and 30 years later, many of those who were exposed to the gas have given birth to physically and mentally disabled children. For decades, survivors have been fighting to have the site cleaned up, but they say the efforts were slowed when Michigan-based Dow Chemical took over Union Carbide in 2001. Human rights groups say that thousands of tons of hazardous waste remain buried underground, and the government has conceded the area is contaminated. There has, however, been no long-term epidemiological research which conclusively proves that birth defects are directly related to the drinking of the contaminated water.