

Submission to draft MWRRIP

Form email

Attention to Mr Les Willmott, (Chair Metropolitan Waste Resource Recovery Group)

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the Draft Metropolitan Waste and Resource Recovery Implementation Plan.

The plan in its current form is a blueprint to trash the western suburbs of Melbourne.

It recommends that in the future all of Melbourne's landfill waste goes to the western or northern suburbs, taking 4 million tonnes of stinking, rotting rubbish every single year.

It's not fair to treat the west like Melbourne's dumping ground. Every region of Melbourne should manage its own fair share of waste.

The Plan asks whether transporting waste from the south east catchment to the north west would adversely affect residents, businesses and the environment.

As a resident of the west I can tell you that the Ravenhall tip impacts our lives every day. The tip stinks. Sometimes it's so bad, kids can't play outside. It has been badly mismanaged and cannot be allowed to expand.

The plan says that we need to reduce our reliance on landfill but offers no solutions or fresh ideas for the future. The plan acknowledges that there is a decade of landfill capacity left, so at best this plan is lazy and ill-conceived. At worst, it shows an underhanded expansion of landfill without consultation.

It is deeply concerning that the map of the Deer Park tip includes the neighbouring grassland and the quarry, assuming it will one day become landfill. The quarry has nothing to do with the current tip, so why is it referenced?

The plan also assumes that buffers for landfills sit outside a landfill, contrary to EPA policy. This could mean all properties within 2 km of an organic waste landfill become worthless.

During the State Election a promise was made to send any application for a tip expansion to an independent panel. It's grossly inappropriate that this waste management plan could be abused to break an election promise by the Premier.

This report is deeply flawed and must be completely revised. If this plan goes ahead it will break the Premier's election commitment to communities in the western suburbs.