



The Chairman
Environment and Public Affairs Committee
Parliament House
Perth WA 6000

Attention: LINDA OMAR

I would like to advise you of a disgusting situation that has been forced upon the residents of Leeming, Willetton and Canningvale by the South Metropolitan Regional Council, by the way of the Rubbish Recycling Facility in Bannister Road.

When we moved to Leeming, the area was rated very highly by everyone we asked that lived in the area. We purchased our home in Mellor Court and were very happy with our decision.

Some two years later, it was announced that the SMRC were building a rubbish recycling plant in Canningvale. We were told there would be NO Odour, wouldn't see or hear it, and in fact wouldn't know it was there.

On this advise, we were happy for this to be built, and the advantages for the environment were huge we were told.

It didn't take long to find out we were told lies, about 2 weeks into the commencement of the process.

We did however cut them some slack, as the new project would require some fine-tuning. We are now 5 years into this fine-tuning, and the facility is no better today than the first time I smelt the rotting rubbish stench that comes out of this facility almost daily. The Bio filters are pathetic and don't do their job at all, and in fact cause ill health I believe.

Our family suffers from a range of symptoms, most commonly headaches for days on end, blood noses by 2 members of the family and a feeling of lethargy and just feeling unwell.

When we get away from the area for more than a few days, these symptoms clear and everyone feels well again.

Then on returning home, a day or 2 we are back to the same poor health patterns again. We are all lucky compared to others, I work some 30km away from this facility, my wife 15km and thankfully my boys school 8km away, so we do get a reprieve from the odour during work hours.

It would be the smartest thing I could do for my family's health, to move away from the area. The area that we grew to love, and our home for the last 7 years. The area prior to the SMRC Odour pit.

Why should we be driven from our homes because of the odour?
Why is the West Australian Government not interested in this disgraceful situation?
Why is the SMRC trying to blame others for the odour when everyone knows who is responsible.

Why is the Department of Environment not closing this plant down, or fining them on every complaint when people call their Odour Line?

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Why have an Odour Line if they don't have an Odour?

I have two recordings from Chuck Ellis admitting the odour was caused by them, on one occasion the fans failed and the other the Bio Filters failed. This was Easter this year.

Why is that every time I call through and report the odour, Chuck calls back and tells me, I am the only one complaining?

These are all lies and driving us way from our homes.

There are more For Sale signs around Leeming today than I can ever remember.

When is the best time to sell? Or have Home opens?

I can answer this for you: When the South West wind is blowing strongly so it blows the Odour to Canningvale!

Is it right to sell to an unsuspecting family and subject them to the same poor health we suffer from?

Can't show off their new home to family and friends because of embarrassment because of the odour. Can't use the beautiful pool area or BBQ area because of the stench?

Is it right to sell and not to tell them of these shortcomings of the SMRC, Canning Council, Melville Council, State Government, Local Government or ever councilors?

The State Government has a Duty of Care here as do SMRC, Canning Council, Melville Council, State Government, Local Government or ever councilors, and I believe that none of these people take this dreadful Odour problem or us seriously.

With an Election around the corner, I just hope someone takes some level of responsibility for what we are being subjected to and goes in to fight this battle for us. They need to remember that there are many voters in this area that have had enough.

I hope you can help us before all our properties are classified in the same category as Whittnoom.

Regards,

Andy Mullins

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