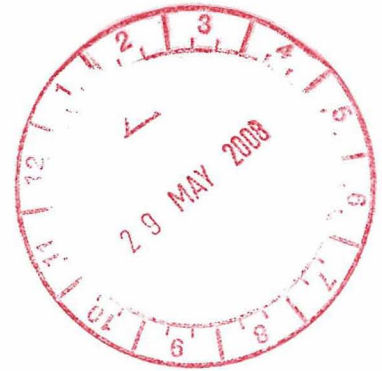


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From:
To: lomar@parliament.wa.gov.au
Date: 28/05/2008 9:20:40 pm
Subject: Submission: Environment and Public Affairs Committee

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

Attention: LINDA OMAR



RE: The Regional Resource Recovery Centre located in Bannister Road, Canning Vale.

The impact on my family since this RRRC Waste Composting Facility commenced operations has been enormous, due to the noxious odours that linger around my neighbourhood and home. This facility has disrupted our lives and has had an impact on our lifestyle and health since it was first built. The odours have ranged from akin to a rotting seafood smell to a putrid, overpowering manure smell and of course is strongest when the wind is blowing from the direction of the facility towards my home. However, the stench often hangs in the air even on days where there is little or no wind blowing.

Some of the impacts of these noxious odours are as follows:

- 1.. No longer are we able to plan an outside BBQ or backyard party/activity, as the odours could appear at any time so we must always plan to move inside.
- 2.. Opening of doors and windows to air out our home is dictated by this stench. The experts will tell you that airing out your home will have better health benefits for the family.
- 3.. Our children do not like to play outdoors when this stench is around.
- 4.. My health has been affected, I never experienced sensitive sinus problems before these bad odours started.
- 5.. The stench is very embarrassing and once outside visitors must leave promptly due to the unpleasant nature of these bad odours.
- 6.. The stench is often strong enough to make me and my family feel nauseous.

I have been quite vigilant in reporting these noxious odours first to the RRRC then the EPA and since on-line reporting began to the appropriate authorities.

I have found the RRRC to be very unresponsive and at times quite dismissive of what I describe to them about the odours.

The following are some responses that I have had from the RRRC:

- 1.. A truck backed into a large door and it can't close, now the replacement door has to come from the Eastern States and will take over a week but the facility will keep working.
- 2.. The rollers have broken down. (this seems to happen on numerous occasions).
- 3.. The biofilters are not working. (another section that breaks down quite regularly).
- 4.. You are the only one to report this smell today. (it seems a lot of people are told this when you report to the RRRC).
- 5.. We are no longer accepting seafood waste. (I never thought that something like seafood waste would have been accepted in the first place).

When this facility was first proposed to the community the benefits to the environment and the ratepayers was, quote "

- a.. Ratepayers will receive better service than previously provided,
- b.. A massive 85% reduction of household waste to landfill sites, and
- c.. Less waste to landfill sites means a reduction in greenhouse gas and associated problems of landfills"

(taken from <http://www.smrc.com.au/projects/rrrc/rrrc-faq.cfm>)

To my knowledge the facility has not fulfilled any of the above as I am not receiving better service, most of the waste/compost is actually used as landfill as the compost is not suitable for use on gardens or market gardens etc.

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As a ratepayer, I find that my council (City of Canning) is supporting this facility, despite written admission by the SMRC that this RRRC Waste Composting Facility has been the source of problem odour emissions. This is totally unacceptable, that even with documented evidence of odour problems and ongoing complaints by their own ratepayers, they continue to support the continuation and operating of this facility.

I believe that for the health and wellbeing of all the residents in the suburbs of Leeming, Willetton, Canning Vale and surrounds, this RRRC Waste Composting Facility should be shut down and cease operations immediately.

Please accept my submission on this matter.

Yours faithfully,

Jody A Ross

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