Media release

Tuesday, 5 May 2015

Independent decision for Moorebank recycling proposal

The final decision on a proposed recycling facility that would handle around half a million tonnes of construction waste a year will be made by the independent Planning Assessment Commission (PAC).

The Department of Planning and Environment has referred the proposal to the PAC with a recommendation that it be approved, with strict conditions to control air quality, noise, traffic and other impacts.

The Department worked with the proponent to make a number of changes in response to public feedback, including:

- changes to traffic access from Brickmakers Drive
- reducing the maximum height that raw material can be stockpiled so it is less visible
- increasing the height of noise reduction mounds around the perimeter, which will also reduce its impacts on local views.

“We realise there is significant community concern about the project’s impacts and have examined them carefully against the relevant standards,” the spokesperson said.

“We’ve found that local traffic, air quality and noise impacts would be in line with standards and that imposing recommended stringent conditions would ensure these impacts remain acceptable.

“If the PAC approves the facility, our compliance team would monitor and strictly enforce any conditions imposed to manage local impacts.

“The facility won’t be visible from houses in the area and would be blocked by landscaping and the Georges River foreshore.”

The spokesperson said that the project was good for the environment and would create more jobs.

“Concrete, brick, asphalt, sandstone and sand from the building industry would be trucked into the facility, where it would be sorted and crushed so the vast majority can be reused,” the spokesperson said.

“The proposed design means that around 99.5% of what is delivered to the site could be recycled, which means it would make a significant contribution to resource recovery and reducing waste in Sydney.

“The project would create 45 full-time jobs and see $3.5 million invested for its construction.”
The proposal was put on public exhibition for community feedback in early 2013 and received 1051 submissions objecting to the proposal. The applicant’s response to the submissions were put on exhibition in late 2014, receiving a further 300 objections.

To view the Department’s assessment of the proposal, visit www.majorprojects.nsw.gov.au

Media contact: (02) 9228-6128