

To Whom It May Concern,

I would like to submit my air quality concerns to Victorian Government Clean Air Summit.

My main concerns are with;

- Transport exhaust emission, especially in relation to poor fuel standards in Australia
- Emissions from Altona Refinery and the poor quality fuel it produces
- Odour emissions from Altona Refinery and industry in the inner West.

My concerns with fuel quality are;

- The State Government not pushing harder to bring Australia in line with the rest of the developed world with improved fuel standards with lower sulfur content and higher octane ratings.
- This poor, high sulphur and contaminated fuel produces much more dangerous exhaust gases and reduces air quality significantly.
- A change to better fuel specifications would effectively improve the air quality and health almost instantly of millions of Victorians.
- That poor quality fuel, due to age and limitations of the Altona and Shell Refineries, is forced on Victorians due to no current alternative. (The fuel they produce has long been obsolete and, as well as being harmful while refined, continues to harm Victorians everywhere it is used)

My concerns with Altona Refinery are;

- Odour from sulphates released from the main incinerator stack. Each time waste gases are burnt and smoke is released from this stack, which happens daily, pollution with odour is spread a wide distance depending on the wind direction. I would like to request that Exxon Mobil works to reduce firstly the amount of emissions from this stack and / or reduces the associated odour by improving their processes. This is particularly noticeable in summer with windows open and as far away as Newport and Williamstown.
- Odours, pollution and noise from refinery flaring.
- General harmful emissions such as benzene from an aging and obsolete refinery.
- The State Government / EPA allowing an ancient and obsolete refinery to continue operation, despite changes to the way Melbournians live and a standard of living they expect.
- Due to the antiquated nature of the refinery superseding the EPA itself, the EPA site licence is tailor made to the refinery not formed from a basis that eliminates impact to the environment and community. It does not take into account normal refinery exclusion zones which aren't observed due to historic planning mistakes and does not put pressure on Exxon Mobil to reduce their odour impact and emissions. This encourages a 'business as usual' practice of Melbourne's West putting up with odours and emissions. In fact, the EPA is allowing Exxon Mobil to expand and further pollute Melbourne's air. I feel the State Government is hamstrung with financial and political pressure, and also as a result of poor State Government fuel planning and Federal fuel legislation, into allowing the old and pollution spewing refinery to continue operation well beyond it's operational lifetime.

My concerns with Inner West industry emissions;

-Generally businesses are allowed to impact their community as long as their emissions are within their 'EPA site licence'. These may be quite generous to the impact a business can make due to the historic nature of some industries preceding the EPA and political and financial pressure to keep industry and jobs in Melbourne. However, these EPA licences shouldn't allow ANY impact on residential areas. Control of emissions and odour to reduce impact on the community must be increasingly tightened.

Regards,

Karl Smith