



Colleen Hartland MLC

State Member of Parliament for Western Metropolitan Region

The Hon Richard Wynne
Minister for Planning
Level 16, 8 Nicholson Street
East Melbourne VIC 3002

4 April 2017

Dear Mr Wynne,

Re: The EPA's decision to expand the Ravenhall Tip

I write in response to the EPA's decision to issue a works approval for Cleanaway to expand the Ravenhall Tip until 2038.

I urge you to intervene in this decision by refusing to issue Cleanaway with a planning permit for the expansion.

Community opposition to the tip expansion has been overwhelming. More than 4,600 formal objections were submitted to the Independent Planning Panel, and the local *Stop the Tip* community group has more than 10,000 supporters.

Thousands of residents whose lives are affected by the tip participated in the panel process, giving dreadful accounts of how the tip impacts their daily lives. I was particularly affected by stories of local children unable to play outside because of the overwhelming odour.

The Planning Panel was established by you to fulfil an election promise made by then Opposition Leader Daniel Andrews in the lead up to the 2014 state election. The panel was intended to ensure residents of the west would have a say over this matter of critical importance to their future.

My constituents made their views clear to the panel. They want jobs and opportunity, not one of the world's largest tips.

In the spirit of your government's commitment, I urge you to give full consideration to the weight of community objection to the tip expansion and refuse to issue Cleanaway a planning permit.

Recycling and waste management is a critical issue that affects us all. As a state we should be looking at innovating the way we deal with rubbish instead of resorting to more landfill.

I ask you to consider the residents who must live with the tip each and every day. The people of the west do not deserve to have their backyard turned into a dumping ground.

Yours faithfully,

Colleen Hartland