

Dear YRA Members,

As 2012 comes to a close, it is time to wish you all a Very Happy and Safe Festive Season.

This is the last newsletter which you will receive from the YRA. As of the 1st of January 2013, we become part of the Ormeau Progress Association Inc. Newsletters from that time on will contain a range of information relative to the entire area however, the YRA Working Group will still be involved in any necessary action on our side of the Yatala Enterprise Area.

It has certainly been an eventful year, with the issue of ODOUR still high on the list of priorities for YRA members. Have you looked at the website lately? – www.yatala.info There is now a COMPLAINTS LINE which is very easy to use. Just fill in the online form when you have an odour to report, submit it and the complaint will be recorded for the DEHP and the GCCC to read and act upon.

There is not much more that can be said about the Biomass Power Station development application by Phoenix Power Recyclers at 126 Sandy Creek Road, Yatala. The Action group, headed by David and Brad, along with the assistance of an amazing amount of research by Jacob and others, was instrumental in providing DEHP, the Gold Coast City Council, State and Federal Ministers with damning information on the Biomass process. Over 6000 residents, business owners and their employees, school teachers, medical professionals and visitors to the area signed a petition against the first Biomass Power Plant in Australia being located so close to existing residential and business areas. The result of same was that the Mayor and the entire Divisional Councillors voted to reject the application. It is now hoped that the company aiming to develop this plant will accept the wishes of the Gold Coast Council and their constituents.

That said, the YRA has forwarded another letter to the Gold Coast Council with more evidence of health concerns (see attached) and both Councillors have confirmed receipt of the communication.

Donna Gates, Div. 1 Councillor and Deputy Mayor certainly worked very hard for her constituents on the matter of the Phoenix application and we publically thank her. She has sent a Xmas Card to the YRA Members – see copy enclosed.

Thanks should also be sent to Mark Boothman MP – Member for Albert who went out of his way to offer as much support as possible, which flew in the face of the actions from the State Department of Environment and Heritage Planning. Mark is very aware of the need to see a more sound regulatory process. There is no doubt that some of the decisions made by the state authorities on the biomass plant application appeared flawed due to many disparities with EPA recommendations in other states in Australia.

So, as we roll on to the end of 2012 – the Stanmore Motocross is now used for Children’s Motocross and will be monitored constantly by the GCCC to check for noise issues. Stanmore Road is also now due for another stage of upgrade works. It is hoped that when the council engineers finalise their plan, they take into consideration the truck roll-overs at the Pagan Road roundabout and do something to address this dangerous issue once and for all.

HAVE A HAPPY FESTIVE SEASON AND MAY 2013 BE A GOOD YEAR FOR US ALL.



From: Cavell Dorman [<mailto:cdtms@bigpond.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, 12 December 2012 10:32 AM
To: Deputy Mayor Councillor Donna Gates - Division 1; Councillor Cameron Caldwell - Division 3
Cc: yra@yatala.info
Subject: YRA Phoenix Biomass Information - YRA Committee Member Investigation

Dear Councillor Gates and Councillor Caldwell,

The attached file is self-explanatory.

The contents of same is a result of further investigations by YRA Committee Member – Jacob Mohar, on the effects of Biomass Incineration as proposed by Phoenix Power Recyclers Pty Ltd for their Sandy Creek Road, Yatala location. Jacob emailed information and back up documentation to you last week and we understand that you have registered that you are in receipt of same.

Added to all of this is the fact of the terrifying fire in the north of Brisbane in a facility that stores and recycles toxic materials and oil – all of which is the same or similar to part of the application from Phoenix Power Recyclers!

On behalf of all YRA members and the wider community in the area, we thank you both, as well as your council colleagues, for your ongoing actions to stop this development application from becoming a reality that would have huge ramifications for the area in the years ahead.

Best regards,

Gai Drake, Cavell Dorman and David Osborne

MISSION STATEMENT: “A Community voice surrounding topics which impact the lifestyle, health and environment of residents residing near major commercial and industrial developments in the Yatala Enterprise Area”

11 December, 2012

Division1@goldcoast.qld.gov.au Councillor Gates
Division3@goldcoast.qld.gov.au Councillor Caldwell

Dear Councillor Gates and Councillor Caldwell

YRA would like to draw your attention to a recent email and attachments sent by our committee member Jacob Mohar, to Councillors Donna Gates and Cameron Caldwell to forward to their legal team for evaluation should it be required, if an appeal were lodged (*A copy was also submitted to the YRA committee for further scrutiny and action as we deem necessary*).

This very concerning and apparently qualified information in part, is a result of a doctor's 26 years of research, much of which shares the concerns of some 97,000 professional members in the USA and appears to be in agreeance with a United States EPA paper which has been some 27 years in the making.

The key points that Jacob raised from this additional information are:

- Dioxins are the most insidious pollutants from incineration. They are considered to be the most toxic man made substance.
- The process of burning hydrocarbons and chlorine produces dioxins.
- When hydrocarbons (like trees, grass trash, poultry litter) are burned in the presence of chlorine, dioxins are created.
- Almost all biomass contains chlorine.
- Evidence has been found in contamination of meat, milk and eggs.
- Humans bio-accumulate dioxins (i.e. once absorbed your body cannot expel them), they just keep accumulating from additional exposure.
- A few parts per trillion of dioxins can be enough to cause abnormal development.
- The dioxins, when successfully trapped in a smokestacks filtering system, end up in the fly ash which, depending on how it is disposed of, can leach into our environment and ground water. Once created, there does not appear to be a way of destroying or neutralising the dioxins, so eventually we will either inhale or ingest them.
- DEHP have given Phoenix conditional approval to use fly ash as feedstock in their composting operation.

At the recent Planning & Development Meeting held in November 2012, Donna Gates requested a full review be undertaken of the land & development approval process, including the DEHP approval processes. This request is to be commended and was welcomed by all.

Not only does the planning process need to expand into greater depth and detail, all departments and parties who play a part in the approval process (including DEHP) need to fully understand through educated research what is being requested, what the final operation being proposed will include and how it will impact the surrounding areas and people.

The information provided to date is extensive and what Jacob has brought to our attention recently is extremely concerning. It is important to read it all, in detail, in order to fully understand the risks entailed. Now and in the future we must be knowledgeable and informed as this and other industries attempt to impose themselves on us. The facts of their impact and the possible seriousness of each application being proposed must be fully understood.



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"A Community voice surrounding topics which impact the lifestyle, health & environment of residents near commercial & industrial developments in the Yatala Enterprise Area"

It is hoped that should the Phoenix Biomass Application (unfortunately) go to the Court of Appeal, this information might be of some assistance to the Gold Coast City Council. We would also like to extend our offer of support and assistance should further legitimate research information be required.

YRA would again like to offer our sincere gratitude to Donna Gates and all members of Council, who rejected this application for the better of our communities, the environment and our nation's future planning, to ensure all unknowns are exhausted and necessary precautionary measures are firmly in place before any developments of this type of industrial process are approved.

To view previous documented research information, please visit our website <http://www.yatala.info/YatalaWelcome.html>

Regards,

Cavell Dorman, Gai Drake and David Osborne
For and on behalf of Yatala Residents Alliance

To YRA members —

We had a win & I'm grateful for

Wishing you all the best for the festive season.

May 2013 bring you good health,
much happiness and prosperity.

the support of members in achieving
a great outcome for Yatala. Merry
Christmas to you all.

Aruna Gales,