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Submission:

I OBJECT to the proposed sewerage plan. Catherine Hill Bay is a sensitive area - historically and environmentally.

Aspects of the proposal I find objectionable include:

- Open storage lakes above and adjacent to homes
- 8 metre dam walls that will be cut into the hills
- The odour resulting from open sewage ponds and green algae blooms
- In heavy rain, the overflow from these ponds will be onto the houses below

The company (now badged as Catherine Hill Bay Water Utility Pty Ltd) has apparently never applied for a licence previously in New South Wales and appears to have limited experience in larger scale installations (the managers of this company have reportedly worked in Victoria, providing small-scale sewerage systems for caravan parks and golf courses).

The town of Catherine Hill Bay is a State Heritage Listed town - only the second town in New South Wales to be placed on the register. Any infrastructure needs to be respectful of the heritage nature of the town, and its high volume of tourism.

The Wastewater Treatment Plant site is located on the western edge of the Rose group site, adjacent to Montifiore Street. Part of the heritage and tourism experience is the rural tree-lined entry into town. Although not a local resident, I have visited this town on many occasions.

A smelly ugly wastewater treatment site adjacent to Montifiore St is inappropriately sited. Such a proposal was not part of the approval granted by the Planning Assessment Commission, nor has there been an environmental impact study to determine if / how the site might accommodate recycled sewage and grey water. (previous study only looked at recycled grey water as sewage was to be pumped back to Swansea.)

National Park, coastal bushland, creeks, cabbage tree palm groves, caves, cliffs, and beaches will be adversely affected. If this second rate sewerage technology is allowed to proceed, Moonee Beach (where I have swum and camped) and the lagoon at the base of the 'pocket parks' will also be impacted "40% (of the wastewater generated will be) managed by controlled irrigation of public open space". There is very little public space in this tightly packed 1970s style subdivision with the tiny pocket parks adjacent to a lagoon which runs into the sea.

The proposed technology is said to be outdated and is not failsafe. It is unacceptable that such a poor environmental outcome would result.

I urge the regulator to ensure that best practice technology be used in this area of heritage significance and environmental sensitivity.