



## Inner South Canberra Community Council

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### **FYSHWICK CRS WASTE TRANSFER FACILITY A BAD DEAL FOR CANBERRA**

The ISCCC is astounded that the ACT Government has accepted the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the major CRS waste facility in Ipswich Street, Fyshwick. This is despite about 440 community objections on behalf of over 1000 people and despite a critical review commissioned by the government.

To make matters worse, after hearing no news for two years, those who lodged the objections heard the news late last Friday afternoon at the beginning of school holidays. Clearly, the intention of the government was to release the news into the community at a time the smallest number would notice it.

The cumulative air quality, noise, odour and heavy vehicle impacts of the proposed CRS facility, the proposed Hi-Quality waste processing factory in Tennant Street, and the current metal recycling and proposed car fragmentising operation adjoining CRS are expected to be immense. It is critical that the Government take into account the cumulative impact of such major waste facilities on the environment and human health and safety of the surrounding area and establish air quality monitoring for these heavy industrial activities.

“In allowing this to happen in Fyshwick, has the Government sought the views of the 1000 businesses that operate in Fyshwick, the second largest economy in Canberra, worth \$2.3 billion a year?” asked Marea Fatseas, Chair of the ISCCC.

“Has it sought the views of the 13,400 people who work in Fyshwick, the third largest workforce in Canberra, who will be subjected to the impacts of these new waste facilities?”

“Has it asked the three childcare centres in Fyshwick and Symonston and the parents of the children who attend them?”

“Has it asked the many thousands of Canberrans who visit the Fyshwick fresh food markets and many other Fyshwick businesses each week?”

“Clearly, the Government isn’t listening to the concerns of residents of Narrabundah, Fyshwick, Symonston, Griffith and Kingston, thousands of whom live less than 2 kilometres from the proposed waste hub sites,” said Ms Fatseas.

The CRS waste transfer terminal proposal is not even a good deal in terms of the claimed recycling benefits. The Government-commissioned expert review of the EIS found that of the 300,000 tonnes to be handled each year, only about 5 percent would be reused locally, 15 percent would be shipped overseas, and the remaining 80 percent of waste would be transported by rail to Veolia Woodlawn landfill in New South Wales. The expert review criticised the EIS for failing to consider if treating and transporting materials interstate and overseas would use more energy and generate more greenhouse gases than dealing with it in the ACT.

The ISCCC calls on the ACT Government to:

1. Establish an air quality monitoring station in Fyshwick.
2. Consider the cumulative impact of current and proposed waste facilities in Fyshwick.
3. Extend the amount of time provided for the community to comment on the expected Development Application by CRS from the standard 15 working days to 40 working days in view of the massive amount of documentation the community will need to absorb and respond to.
4. Commit to change the ACT Territory Plan so that such major waste facilities are prohibited as a land use in Fyshwick.