

Open letter to the community

Proposed car battery recycling plant



I feel compelled to publish this open letter to the community in response to misinformation and fear currently being promoted by opponents of the proposed car battery recycling plant at Hazelwood North.

Our proposed state-of-the-art recycling plant will use the most advanced engineering and environmental practices available in the world.

Not only will its environmental performance meet statutory emission limits set by the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) but it is world's best practice.

This industry is not new to Australia; there is a plant in New South Wales which is operating very well. Our plant will use more advanced technology than this operation. We will also produce a range of value-adding products at the site and establish a research and development facility. We want to collaborate with universities in the renewable energy sector.

After extensive research, we chose the Latrobe Valley as our preferred site, given the community is transitioning from its reliance on the power industry to other sustainable industries.

The proposal focuses on positive society-wide benefit, creating a recycled use for what would otherwise be a waste product. Unlike the traditional 'take, make, use and dispose' model of production and consumption within a traditional linear economy, projects such as this support the transition to a circular economy.

Recycling batteries provides a number of benefits to the local and national economy by reducing waste sent to landfill, preventing pollution and conserving resources by recovering a valuable material instead of disposing it. Our value-added products include: refined lead and alloys for new battery manufacturing, high density plastics products and fertiliser-grade zinc sulphate for fertiliser industries.

We are progressing development of our application for Works Approval. We have been out talking to residents and

community groups as well as regulatory agencies, so the proposal is clearly understood.

Understandably some people are concerned about air emissions and lead in particular. We have been open and transparent in presenting details of our technology and data from various environmental assessments.

These assessments demonstrate the technology, the most modern currently being used in Australia, is safe. Any emissions of lead and other substances would be extremely low, to the point they would not be measurable by field monitoring equipment. It is estimated to be up to 300 times lower than EPA standards.

We are more than happy to share this information with our community. You can go to www.chunxing.com.au to read our draft Works Approval application, fact sheets and other information.

Not only will we have extensive air monitoring across our site, but we are prepared to locate monitors in locations suggested by the community, including

the Hazelwood North School some 1.6 kilometers away. Results of daily monitoring will be made available.

The proposed plant will operate with an excess buffer zone more the twice the buffer recommended under EPA guidelines.

Our proposed \$40 million plant will create upwards of 50 jobs and many more in the design and the construction phase on the 33-acre site.

Located on an existing industrial estate, we would ensure the site is fully landscaped.

We want to talk and meet with anyone who has concerns about our proposal and will continue our conversations with the community. We want to be part of the Latrobe Valley's future and contribute to the local economy. We will be employing people who live and work in this area, and I can assure you of our commitment to be a good Corporate Citizen.

Dr Lakshman Jayaweera

If you would like to know more about the project, please contact Dr Lakshman Jayaweera, CEO/ Director of Chunxing Corporation Pty Ltd on 0418 239 441 or email lakshman.jayaweera@jschunxing.com or Geoff Latimer, Managing Director of Ascend Waste and Environment, 0478 416 79 or email glatimer@ascend2042.com