

Tuesday, 16 October 2012

To the Editor  
The Mercury  
By email: [mercuryledletter@dbl.newsltd.com.au](mailto:mercuryledletter@dbl.newsltd.com.au)

Dear Editor,

Sorell Council does not require compliance with 'earthquake regulations'. It has no such regulations. However, the Council may require land stability studies in certain areas in and around Bream Creek.

This area is known for its susceptibility to landslips caused by past land clearing practices, not by any seismic activity. In response to concerns that Bream Creek is not stable (*Letters 13 October*), this is only correct with reference to landslips, not earthquakes.

An experienced geologist concluded from more than 100 hours of past geological field mapping and geophysical surveying of the specific C cell site and its immediate surrounds, that the site is in fact extremely geologically stable. Publicly available databases of seismic activity provide further evidence of this area's stability.

The C cell will in fact be approximately 750m from the unnamed tributary of the Carlton River, not 250m as suggested by your correspondent, and approximately 1.75km from the river itself, not 700m.

Scientific studies conclude that the cell will not be materially affected by climate change or extreme weather conditions. These factors were taken into account in the facility's design.

Ground water and surface water were only two of many factors considered when determining the location and design of the cell.

The cell and its contents will not be toxic, which we have publicly stated on a number of occasions.

There is currently no information regarding airborne particle movements in the Copping area. This is something that Southern Waste Solutions plans to provide to the local community as part of the C cell project.

We would also like to point out that a C cell successfully operates in suburban Melbourne within 200m of the nearest residence. The Copping facility is approximately 2.4km from the nearest residence.

Yours sincerely,

Christine Bell  
Chief Executive Officer  
Southern Waste Solutions