



Tuesday, 17 January 2017

To the Editor

The Mercury

Via email: [mercuryledletter@themercury.com.au](mailto:mercuryledletter@themercury.com.au)

Dear Sir,

It is disappointing that despite numerous representations to those opposed to the C-cell being constructed at Copping, these groups and individuals choose to deliberately misrepresent the development.

We have regularly stated that a percentage of gate fees will be used to establish a multi-million dollar trust fund to facilitate the closure, remediation and after care of the site.

In addition, on a number of occasions, Denison MP, Andrew Wilkie has been offered an opportunity to be personally briefed on the development, along with a site tour and access to information relevant to the C-cell. On each occasion he has declined to respond.

Throughout the lengthy approval process, we have been open and transparent in disclosing relevant information as well as regularly organising the opportunity for the community to have their say through public meetings and a Community Reference Group.

Yet, despite these actions, Mr Wilkie has chosen to infer the process is flawed, that a 'toxic waste dump' can be constructed where-ever somebody chooses and that it will accept a wide variety of waste.

The claims that the C-cell is a toxic waste dump, and that it is being constructed on some sort of a whim, are both incorrect.

The basis for the development has been on the best science available, in terms of both its construction and location. This fact has been validated by an independent statutory body, the Environment Protection Authority.

For the record, the facility will mainly accept soil and timber contaminated with metal. **Radioactive waste, poisons and liquids will not be accepted. It will not accept the most hazardous waste as claimed by Mr Wilkie.**

In seeking to misrepresent the position of the C-cell, Mr Wilkie does much to undermine a legitimate process and the public confidence in our bureaucratic and political systems.

As a leader of our community, he should know better but instead chooses to score cheap political points for his own electoral gain.

Yours sincerely

Christine Bell  
CEO, Southern Waste Solutions