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## **Yatala power plant application refused**

An application for a biomass power generation plant and waste transfer facility at Sandy Creek Road, Yatala, was rejected by Council's City Planning Committee today.

Committee Chair, Councillor Cameron Caldwell, said the application, by Phoenix Power Recyclers Pty Ltd, was refused based on the committee's concerns with a number of planning issues.

"The height of the chimney stack was a concern – given its proximity to residential areas, it was considered it did not fit in with local character of the landscape," he said.

"Secondly, the general amenity of the area would be impacted by odour emissions, hours of operation, noise and traffic.

"Another issue was the possibility of spontaneous combustion of the green waste, which would be used to generate power.

"The applicant could not guarantee long-term safeguards to protect residents from such an occurrence. In addition, the proposal does not ensure the minimisation of environmental harm to residents."

Divisional Councillor Donna Gates said although the technical aspects of the application had been approved by the State Government, Council needed to consider the impact of such a project on its ratepayers.

"Under the planning scheme, this area west of the motorway is considered appropriate for a mix of general and low impact business and industry depending on its proximity to residential areas," she said.

"This plant is just too close. The residents who live near the Yatala Enterprise Area deserve to have peace of mind in their own homes.

"We don't know what the health ramifications of this plant would be – and the residents don't deserve the uncertainty of a 24/7 cloud across their horizon, which gives cause for serious health concerns," said Cr Gates.

Cr Caldwell said noise compliance was also an issue.

"The applicant could not offer assurances that the design of the development, prior to construction, would comply with required noise levels," he said.

The committee recommendation will be considered by full Council on **4 December**.