

Solvent surprise

By Danielle Kutchel

In an announcement that took many by surprise, the State Government has declared that Dandenong could soon be home to a solvent recycling plant that would process a third of the state's solvent waste each year.

The proposed facility, run by global recycling giant Remondis, would transform solvent-based products at a time when Victoria's

capacity to recycle and treat them is limited.

The products would then be able to be reused, reducing pressure on the environment from what would otherwise be a dangerous waste product.

The plant is the recipient of a Recycling Victoria Infrastructure Fund grant to the tune of \$1.34 million.

The announcement was made without

warning on Sunday 10 January by Environment Minister Lily D'Ambrosio, and Facebook lit up with outrage from residents.

However, the proposed plant is not yet a done deal, with Remondis yet to make an application for a planning permit to allow them to proceed.

City of Greater Dandenong mayor Angela Long released a statement the following day clarifying the nature of the proposal.

"The announcement relates to a grant that has been provided to a Dandenong South business by Sustainability Victoria (SV) for the treatment of hazardous liquid wastes," she said.

"At this stage the recipient firm has not yet made application to the City of Greater Dandenong for a planning permit and they understand that this is a statutory requirement and process to be completed."

Continued page 4

P1
19th August 2021
Journalist