

Council quits fight against waste plant

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"The waste material we're processing has to be assessed, audited and analysed so we know what's in it. And we can't do that without knowing where it's coming from.

"We have to know that before we construct."

He said it was "in our interest" to process only compliant waste - so to not void the plant equipment's warranty or create an "emission risk".

Mr Keating said the community should trust the EPA's regulation of the project.

"The message is to rely on the EPA and

how it manages these facilities to protect the environment."

Over the past year, the council has stated it was "strongly opposed" against the plant, describing its fight as "one of the most significant VCAT planning appeals" that the council had pursued.

In a separate legal battle in September 2020, VCAT ruled in favour of a planning permit for the plant despite the council's opposition.

The council separately appealed against the EPA's works approval for the project.

It stated at the time that its "team of ex-

perts" were building "as strong a case as it can".

The team included "experts, lawyers and a barrister to defend Council's opposition to the Works Approval at the tribunal".

The EPA stated that it made minor amendments to the works approval's assessment conditions.

The amended conditions specify agreed methods for future studies.

"EPA believes these changes will reassure Council and the community that possible emissions should pose a low risk to environment and human health."

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