



Consultation a waste

By LOUISE THROWER

APROVAL of a doubling of waste intake at the Woodlawn Bioreactor has been a "comprehensive failure of process," says one Tarago resident.

Peter Mullins' comments came after the Planning Assessment Commission (PAC) approved Veolia Environmental Services' bid to increase waste receipt at the Tarago facility from 500,000 to 1.13 million tonnes annually. It also agreed to a boost in regional waste from 50,000 to 130,000 tonnes yearly.

It followed a PAC sitting at Tarago hall

Community blasts decision to double Woodlawn intake

last month at which Mr Mullins, other members of the community and Council voiced their concerns. These focused on odour, traffic routes and road safety.

One of the consent conditions requires Veolia to lodge annual rather than three-yearly independent odour reports.

Another calls on Veolia to manage operations so there are no breaches. If there are, it has to take mandated steps to remediate and prevent any further breaches.

But overall, the conditions don't go far

enough, Mr Mullins says.

"I think the whole exercise has been a failure of process," he told the Post.

"The PAC didn't contest any of the Department of Planning's advice and gave no apparent acknowledgement of community concerns which were centred on odour and traffic.

"It failed comprehensively as an exercise in community consultation because the consultation was a joke....We have not had a chance to effectively participate."

He described the constraints on Veolia as "smoke and mirrors" and said the government's actions over environmental breaches at Orica's Newcastle plant stood in stark contrast to those at Woodlawn.

The Tarago community could have no confidence that odours emanating from Woodlawn were not dangerous, he told the Post.

"I'm absolutely outraged by this decision," he said.

Continued page 5



OPENING NEW DOORS: Goulburn has gained another attraction that should bring plenty of visitors - a V8 experience. Mayor Geoff Kettle yesterday caught up with motor racing legend John Bowe and V8Race Experience operator Greg Evans (all pictured) who is organising ride and drive thrills for people at Goulburn's Wakefield Park. More page 21

50 months Interest Free*

• NO DEPOSIT • NO INTEREST with monthly repayments until May 2016
ON FURNITURE & BEDDING

Interest free not available online. Available at Harvey Norman® complexes only. *Terms & conditions apply, see in-store for details.