

# ACID OOZE FROM VAN-PARK PLAN

By Don Pagé 20 April 2019, [www.woronoravalley.com](http://www.woronoravalley.com)

Sulfuric acid could be released into Woronora River soon from chemicals in soil beneath the new housing estate proposed for the old caravan park.

A report advised that if foundations cut into any acid-sulfate soils (ASS), the iron-sulphide layer would contact water and oxygen, reacting “aggressively” to generate the sulfuric acid commonly found in car batteries.

Local councillors were informed last year in plans to erect the first two-storey fibro display home. The reaction persists once the soil is exposed, constantly releasing sulfuric acid into surface and groundwater thereafter. It is often found beneath estuaries along the NSW coast.

It kills fish, plants, corrodes aluminium boats, endangers swimmers and pollutes water and air.

## A SIGN OF THE FUTURE?



Expensive high-tech chemical treatment is required to deal with such poisonous soil, by stockpiling and treating on-site.

If the acidic layer is left undisturbed, there is no problem as water and oxygen are sealed off.

The threat of long-term contamination of Woronora River was revealed in a report to

the developers, Wattle Parks Ltd, in October 2018. Sutherland Shire Council has not yet decided on these environmental threats.

An application to start to redevelop the van park into a cheap fibro housing estate is before councillors, but has not been approved yet. The deadline for objections was a week ago.

This industrial process is not allowed in the zoning of the caravan park, RE2. Effectively it would be a waste-storage site for open-air chemical treatment, adjoining scenic foreshore-protection land, visible from the Woronora River and from four suburbs.

Fishing and swimming nearby would become dangerous with the sulfuric pollution. Foul-smelling H<sub>2</sub>S (rotten-eggs) is toxic and could permeate houses in Woronora, Bonnet Bay, Bangor and Sutherland.

Aluminium boats and motors would be particularly vulnerable to acid attack.

Those consequences were couched in vague euphemisms in a report by CST Services.

### Contact E-Ward councillors:

John Riad (Liberal)	<a href="mailto:jriad@ssc.nsw.gov.au">jriad@ssc.nsw.gov.au</a>	0408 919 760;
Peter Scaysbrook (ALP)	<a href="mailto:pscaysbrook@ssc.nsw.gov.au">pscaysbrook@ssc.nsw.gov.au</a>	0425 216 911;
Steve Simpson (ind.)	<a href="mailto:stevesimpson@ssc.nsw.gov.au">stevesimpson@ssc.nsw.gov.au</a>	0414 193 699.

The NSW Government has driven Council's overdevelopment agenda. Contact State MPs:

Lee Evans, [Heathcote@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Heathcote@parliament.nsw.gov.au) , 9548-0144;

Melanie Gibbons, [Holsworthy@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Holsworthy@parliament.nsw.gov.au) , 9825-3653.

Website information: [www.woronoravalley.com](http://www.woronoravalley.com)