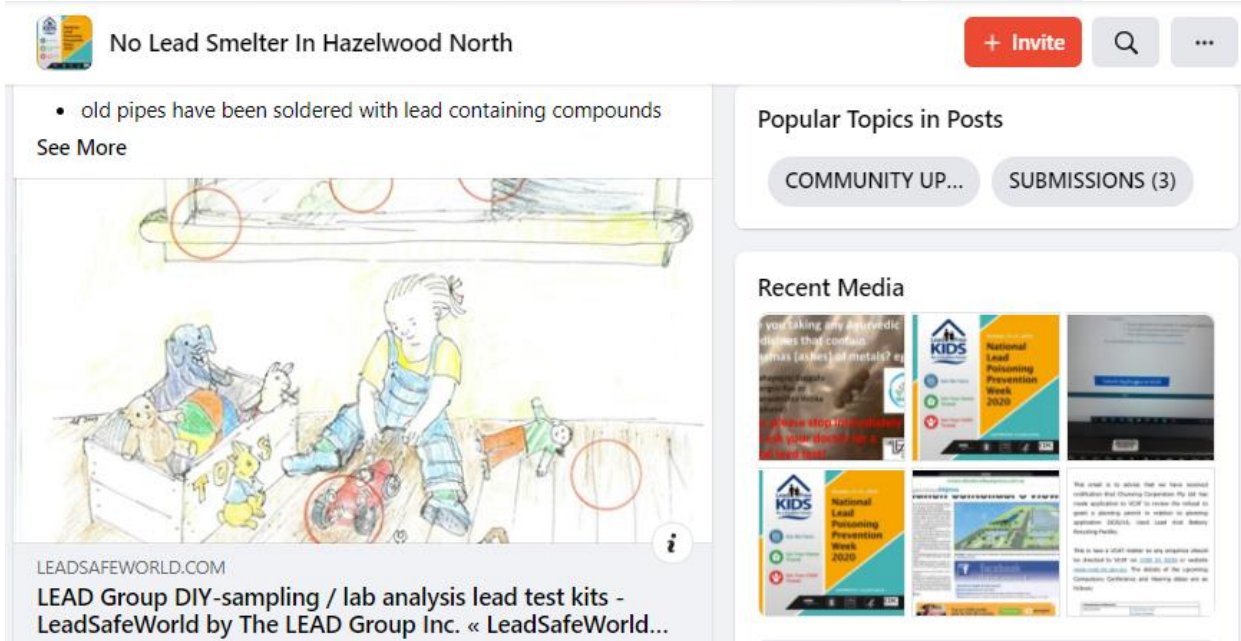




Update on No Lead Smelter in Hazelwood North

By Hazelwood North Action Group and Maggie Jones



Above: No Lead Smelter in Hazelwood North Facebook Group screenshot. Join the group at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1752026121602331/>

A quick update as to where the proposed Lead smelter is for Hazelwood North is:

To appreciate the news of a possible lead smelter proposal is to know the context of this within Latrobe Valley's already 90 year history of pollution due to its coal fired power stations. Poor health outcomes have been a consequence of this pollution.

The privatisation of the SEC (State Electricity Commission of Victoria) and the closing of some of its older stations promised some reprieve from pollution, has bought on unemployment, a change of demographics and additional problems that make this community vulnerable on so many levels.

The area still has Yallourn and Loy Yang power stations and more recently a Waste to energy plant has been approved for Traralgon and a Magnesium Smelter pilot plant (using ash from power station ash ponds) for Hazelwood North.

When we heard of "Chunxing's" Lead Smelter proposal we thought enough is enough. The more we researched lead the more worried we were and the harder we worked to inform the community and oppose this. Despite this - the EPA (Environment Protection Authority, Victoria) have approved the Works Approval Application to the stage where Chunxing have to submit their final detailed plans.

- Chunxing's Works Approval Application has been approved by the EPA to the stage where they can submit their final detailed plans to EPA for approval.
- Chunxing's Planning Permit Application to Latrobe City Council was recommended for approval by the Council's Planning Staff but was voted down by Councillors 6 to 3 by Councillors.



- Chunxing have now appealed this decision at VCAT (Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal) - Our Action group together with local (incorporated) community group Voices of the Valley have this week submitted an application to be a 3rd party at this VCAT appeal. We will wait to see if this is permitted.
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