



PARLIAMENT OF NEW SOUTH WALES
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTY-SEVENTH PARLIAMENT

Community Recognition Statement

19 November 2021

PROFESSOR VEENA SAHAJWALLA

Ms SONIA HORNERY (Wallsend) :

Congratulations to Professor Veena Sahajwalla on being named the 2022 NSW Australian of the Year.

A materials scientist, engineer and inventor, Professor Veena Sahajwalla pioneers research into waste, turning it into a new generation of green materials and products. She does this as the Founding Director of the Centre for Sustainable Materials Research and Technology at the University of New South Wales.

Veena is most well known for her invention of Polymer Injection Technology, or 'Green Steel', including work at Molycop's electric steel- making furnace at Waratah.

In 2018, she launched the first of many MICROfactories. She leads two national research and industrial transformation hubs, the ARC Microrecycling Research Hub and the National Environmental Science Program Sustainable Communities and Waste Hub.

Veena collaborates with leading universities and institutions, plus industry and community groups, to develop and apply new recycling science into real-world environmental and economic benefits.

She's been instrumental in raising the profile of STEM in Australia and enhancing public understanding of its importance.

Congratulations Veena on this award and thank you for doing the extraordinary things that you do.