

**Submission
No 227**

**INQUIRY INTO PERFORMANCE OF THE NSW
ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AUTHORITY**

Name: Ms Anne Matheson

Date received: 29/08/2014

Dear Sir/Madam,

We need a fearless and independent Environment Protection Authority that puts community and the environment above vested interests and profits for the few.

Vitality, it must be adequately resourced.

I reported a polluter to the EPA two years ago. I emailed the details of the breach (which included my statement and photos of the event). I got a return call months later, and spoke to an officer about the incident for 10 minutes. As far as I was aware, that was the extent of the investigation.

I don't believe this polluter was fined or even reprimanded. This person was fully aware they were polluting and not complying with the law. This was their modus operandi and they were polluting every day, as a part of their role as an installer of air conditioning systems. It saved them money to not capture the greenhouse gas from the old system. It was simply released into the atmosphere.

Unless we have an EPA with teeth, polluters will not comply with the law. It's a simple fact.

I call on you to do what you can to ensure the EPA is adequately funded, so it can do its job promptly and effectively for the benefit of us all, especially our kids and their kids.

Yours sincerely,
Anne Matheson