

**Submission
No 94**

INQUIRY INTO 'ENERGY FROM WASTE' TECHNOLOGY

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I am writing to voice my concerns over the absurdity of the N.S.W. Government even remotely considering the installation of the world's largest 'energy-from-waste' incinerator being built at Eastern Creek in Western Sydney.

The amount of pollution this will spread over the Western Sydney area will not only affect the air we breathe, but also the water we drink and use for watering our plants and produce. Western Sydney has a range of sporting and entertainment venues located in close proximity of the proposed incinerator, such as Wet'n'Wild, Sydney Motorsport Park, Sydney Blue Sox Stadium, Blacktown AFL/Cricket Stadium and Featherdale Wildlife Park to name but a few. Why on earth would the government risk harming the tourist potential associated with these venues? The money already spent on these attractions will have been for nought, as depending on weather conditions on the day, these venues could be rendered inoperable due to smells and pollution from the incinerator, not only to spectators but even more so for the sportsmen and women attempting to play in these conditions.

Isn't it enough that Western Sydney has had the new Badgery's Creek Airport imposed upon them, the re-introduction of the M4 tolls, and the total lack of foresight of infrastructure and public transport for all the new land sub-division and development happening out west? Is this really the attitude the government has for the people of Western Sydney, are we really that low on the socio-economic scale that you couldn't care less about the effects this will have on the Western Sydney community as a whole? Not to mention the impact of plummeting house values overnight once the go ahead is announced! I'm sure if this site was proposed for the Northern Suburbs it wouldn't have been considered for even a moment!

If it is such a good idea, why not build it in Western N.S.W.? Canvass different councils/areas where there is a lack of employment opportunities, low density housing and land that is not suitable for agriculture/farming. Land is cheaper to source, and less of an impact on the population. There is existing rail infrastructure headed out Western N.S.W. that could be utilised to transport the waste to the incinerator and the rail lines leased by the operators which would in turn increase revenue back to the state. As we all know, the government will be scratching for money now that all the states' assets have been sold off! This rail proposal would also reduce the amount of damage and heavy vehicles on our already clogged roads, because I expect no-one has conducted a study on the amount of trucks continually accessing the site on a daily basis.

This government needs to really have a good, hard look at what it is proposing for Western Sydney, as I believe if they give this incinerator the go-ahead, not only will it be the death of Western Sydney, it will also be the death of the current N.S.W. Liberal Government! Are short term solutions really more important to them than the lives of our children and grandchildren, and will the government own up years down the track and cover the costs of health care for all the individuals affected? If this is to be Gladys Berejiklian's legacy, she needs to be held accountable!