

**Submission
No 276**

INQUIRY INTO 'ENERGY FROM WASTE' TECHNOLOGY

Name: Ms Patricia Kahler

Date received: 28 May 2017

To whom it may concern,

I wish to object to the incinerator at Eastern Creek and although I do not live there have friends and family that will be impacted so make my submission on these grounds

This Incinerator will have negative effects on Air Quality and will pollute water as well

Australia' existing policy on Ultrafine Particulates only relates to particulates larger than PM2.5. There is no current regulatory legislation for ultrafine or nanoparticles, which are known to be emitted in high amounts in all types of incinerators and can be less than PM0.1. Research on ultrafine and nanoparticles of PM0.1 -PM2.5 need to be researched for health (effects associated) and environmental effects (such as effect on rainwater tanks, and home grown produce) and a policy needs to be written before any incinerators are approved. Australia needs to develop their own policies on Thermal Waste Incinerators.

My main objectives of waste to energy incineration are "To offer a viable alternative to the burning of fossil fuels by utilising a green and renewable energy source) These objectives will not be met by burning waste fuels based on petrochemicals (which are fossil fuels) and burning plastics derived from fossil fuels does not create 'green' energy – it is simply burning fossil fuels in another form. This does not comply with "The Renewable Energy (Electricity) Act 2000, which specifically excludes fossil fuel based materials such as plastics.

Our whole waste disposal system is in need of an overhaul. Companies need to have financial incentives to reduce unnecessary packaging which ends up in landfill. There could be a system similar to the healthy food star system. If the product uses no packaging – they would get the highest environmental rating. If the product uses no plastic packaging, it could get the second highest rating and so on. This rating system could be used by shoppers to only buy products without packaging or without plastic packaging therefore reducing landfill. Those with a low rating such as one star could be charged a fee by the government. While those with 5 stars or the highest rating could have the 5 stars for no charge.

This gives manufacturers an incentive to reduce their product packaging which would otherwise go to landfill. "Pollution control through financial incentives has a much greater impact on production processes than end-of-pipe abatement"

<http://siteresources.worldbank.org/.../Financialincentives.pdf>

If all councils supplied a composting bin along with the standard Recycling and Red bins landfill would be reduced by 40% per household, per week. (40% of the red bin contains food waste)

<http://www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/.../waste-and-recycling/compost...>

Another way to reduce landfill would be to ban single use plastic bags all together.

Yours Sincerely

Trish Kahler