

Submission
No 389

INQUIRY INTO 'ENERGY FROM WASTE' TECHNOLOGY

Name: Name suppressed
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Partially
Confidential

I have serious concerns about the concept of energy from waste. I am currently feeling quite anxious about the outcome of a proposal to build an energy from waste facility extremely close to my family home. I have researched the long term effects of such a facility being located close to residential areas and the results are disturbing. I don't want to have such a facility anywhere near residential areas. I am an environmentalist who believes in zero waste but this is not the answer to the problem. There are far too many 'what ifs'. In particular, the concern is the long term effect of exposure to pollutants from such a facility. The proposal near my home is touted as state of the art; touted being the operative word. There is not enough evidence to convince me that such a facility should be built so close to residential areas, let alone built at all.

In regards to a specific energy from waste facility, the Next Generation plant proposed at Eastern Creek should not go ahead. The company which is proposing this facility cannot be trusted to do the right thing by the local community. I have first hand evidence of their complete disregard for the community and rules when they were constructing the Eastern Creek Material Processing Centre (Genesis Eastern Creek). Construction was not to occur at night or on weekends or public holidays yet I witnessed both nighttime and public holiday construction. Allegations of this were strongly denied yet the noise stopped at the same time as the facility's grand opening took place. Not coincidental. I don't have any faith that this company will act in the best interests of the community. Their shareholders will always be their priority. Their bottom line should be extended to the triple bottom line; profit, society and the environment. The latter two are not in their thoughts. As such, energy from waste being run by this company is a scary thought indeed.

If you have any influence over decision makers, please, I implore you, do not allow the Next Generation facility to be built at Eastern Creek. The costs far outweigh the benefits for the community.