

Submission
No 543

**INQUIRY INTO PROPOSED ENERGY FROM WASTE
FACILITIES**

Name: Paul Matthews
Date Received: 19 October 2025

Partially
Confidential

My name is Paul Matthews, and my wife and I made the move to Parkes two years ago for what we hoped would be a quieter, healthier life. We came here for the clean air change, to be closer to our daughters and grandchildren. Both of our daughters now live and work locally, and two of our grandchildren attend [redacted]. We've put down roots here and planned to stay.

When I first heard about the proposed Energy from Waste Incinerator (EFWI), I was shocked. Not only by the risks it poses but by the fact that we were never told it was planned. No one from Parkes Shire Council, our solicitor, or the real estate agent who sold us our property ever mentioned it. That lack of transparency is unacceptable and frankly makes me angry.

I'm not so worried for myself, but I am very concerned for our kids and grandkids. They deserve to grow up breathing clean air and living free from toxic exposure. Once something like this is built, it can't be undone and it will change Parkes forever. The emissions, the smell, the noise, the endless trucks is not the future we moved here for.

We didn't come to Parkes to end up surrounded by industrial pollution. We came because it was a safe, family-friendly town with a strong sense of community. Now, families like ours are worried and uncertain. Our granddaughter [redacted] who's [redacted], already feels anxious about this project. When kids start worrying about pollution before they're even in high school, something has gone badly wrong.

The Government has a choice here — to protect our community or to sacrifice it. I strongly urge you to reject the Parkes Energy from Waste Incinerator and keep this town the safe, healthy place it's meant to be.

Sincerely,

Paul Matthews

Resident of Parkes