

Submission
No 538

**INQUIRY INTO PROPOSED ENERGY FROM WASTE
FACILITIES**

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 18 October 2025

Partially
Confidential

Submission Opposing the Proposed Waste Incinerator in Parkes

– Lifelong Resident and Grandfather

My name is _____ I am 68 years old and was born and bred here in Parkes. I have lived here my whole life, raised my family here, and now have 11 grandchildren living in this town. I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed waste incinerator project.

My greatest concern is for the health and future of my grandchildren and the many other children in Parkes. The potential for toxic emissions, air pollution, and long-term contamination of the land is simply not worth the risk. Overseas experience has shown that these facilities can have serious impacts on public health and the environment. Once our land, air, and water are polluted, they can't be fixed — and it's our kids and grandkids who will pay the price.

I have heard from many people — including local farmers, doctors, nurses, police officers, business owners, and tradespeople — who say they will leave Parkes if this incinerator goes ahead. Farmers are talking about walking off the land. Skilled workers and everyday families are looking at moving elsewhere. Some local shops may have to close if the town's population drops. What happens then? Will Parkes slowly become a ghost town?

Our real estate market will suffer badly. If people want to leave, will they even be able to sell their homes at a decent price? Who will want to move into a town with an industrial incinerator running 24 hours a day, every day of the year? The value of homes and land will go down, hurting everyone — especially older residents who rely on their home as their main asset and can't afford to start over somewhere else.

This incinerator won't just affect Parkes. The wind and air drift will carry emissions across to nearby towns and farming communities. The impact will be widespread — and permanent.

And I ask this: if this incinerator is truly safe, why isn't it being built in Sydney, where the waste is coming from? Why must our regional town, known for its clean air and farming, take on the health and environmental risks?

The people of Parkes weren't properly consulted, and many feel this project was pushed through quietly without giving the community a real say. That's not fair — and it's not how things should be done.

For the health of our children, the future of our town, and the protection of our land and people, I urge you to reject this incinerator proposal.

Lifelong resident of Parkes

Grandfather to 11 local children