

**Submission  
No 583**

## **INQUIRY INTO PROPOSED ENERGY FROM WASTE FACILITIES**

**Name:** Mrs Nicole Allen

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Dear Members of Parliament,

I am an extremely concerned member of the Parkes community, who is strongly opposed to the Parkes Energy from Waste facility. The thought of having an incinerator near the community is terrifying. As an individual who has moved from Sydney to a regional area, I am horrified that we are the dumping ground for Sydney's waste. The proposed technology is not proven to be safe, and poses risks to human and animal health, potential damages to prime farming land and has environmental impacts that will be far reaching (eg impact to air quality and impacts to our waterways such as the Goobang Creek and Lachlan River).

Sydney politicians have been extremely vocal against building these types of facilities in their communities (eg the proposed site at Eastern Creek), so why is it ok that legislation has been changed so the facility is allowed in our communities?

This proposed site has negatively impacted my mental health, and many others in the community. As a wife of a farmer, I see the connection that people in the agricultural industry have to the land, and worry about the ability to conduct profitable farming businesses in the region if livestock and soil are negatively impacted by the facility. The immediate impact on profits could be devastating to an industry that already has environmental challenges such as drought to contend with. The potential impact on land values also pose a massive threat to farmers livelihoods and could crush everything that generations have worked so hard to create.

I am also extremely disappointed that the community has been notified at such a late stage in the process. Once again, it feels like people in the regions are being forgotten, with Sydney and other major city centers being the only things politicians are worried about.

I believe our region should not be the solution for Sydney's waste problem. It is unsustainable to transport Sydney's waste to our area and the health implications that we will face will drive people away from the town. Please reconsider the proposal and find another, more equitable solution to Sydney's waste problem.

Kind regards,

Nicole Allen