

**Submission  
No 594**

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

**Name:** Mr Anthony Mrak

**Date Received:** 28 October 2025

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My name is Anthony Mrak, I'm 55, and have lived in the region for 35 years.

I'm 100% against this energy from waste project for Parkes, but not just Parkes, I'm against them anywhere.

I'm a parent of two young adults who are looking to have children in the area of Parkes. I worry about the long-term impact this facility will have on their and their children's health and development. I'm worried about the long-term health impacts from toxic emissions like dioxins and fine particles. I am worried that there is not a requirement for 24/7 monitoring of all emissions such as dioxins.

I am a local business owner and a professional working in the health care sector. My business already struggles to obtain and retain staff; I'm concerned that people will move away or won't move to Parkes and we will struggle to attract employees, and our business will struggle to expand or even survive.

I'm also a local farmer, we have a mixed farming enterprise running sheep for meat and wool production, we also grow grain for human and stock consumption. Parkes is a major food producer. This project threatens our clean air, water and soil quality. Contamination, as well as any perceived risk, threatens our agricultural sector.

I also have 2 investment properties in Parkes; I'm concerned that house and land prices will fall or completely collapse as people won't move to Parkes once this project has been given the go ahead knowing the health impacts it is going to have. I feel this will stop further investment into the area. This will be devastating especially since the NSW government and Federal government have put so much money and time into the inland rail and precinct activation area.

I'm also concerned this proposal threatens tourism especially WORLD recognized Parkes ELVIS Festival. Who would want to come to a festival and be exposed to toxic pollutants.

Transporting waste over 500km and destroying valuable resources to do so is not a sustainable or efficient waste solution, it locks us into waste generation and undermines waste reduction, reuse and recycling.

I feel that the community has not been properly consulted, and decisions have been made without full transparency.

I'm concerned that Parkes is being burdened with Sydney's waste problems. Burning waste from Sydney in Regional NSW unfairly burdens our community with Sydney's waste and the associated environmental, health and economic risks. This does not address the real problem of over waste production in the first place.

I am concerned by the greenwashing and misleading advertising being used to promote energy from waste incineration.

Thermal energy from waste is prohibited in NSW and the ACT due to the health risks and is being phased out overseas. The regulation that prohibits thermal Energy from Waste in NSW but excludes four regional areas is not equitable. Everyone deserves the same health protections; it looks like the people of Parkes and the surrounding 150km radius are expendable.

The proposed location of the facility is surrounded by farms and residents who are reliant on tank water.

My family and I will move away from Parkes should the project go ahead.

Kind Regards

Anthony A Mrak

Dip RM