

**Submission
No 687**

INQUIRY INTO PROPOSED ENERGY FROM WASTE FACILITIES

Name: Mrs Sue Townsend

Date Received: 31 October 2025

My name is Sue Townsend. As a fifth-generation farmer's wife, I am deeply opposed to the proposed Energy from Waste incinerator in Parkes. My family has lived and farmed on this land for generations — raising our children and now our grandchildren here — and I cannot sit by quietly while a project of this nature threatens the health, safety, and future of our community.

My greatest concern is for the health of our children, grandchildren, and every generation to come. No one can guarantee that harmful emissions or toxic by-products from this plant will not affect the air we breathe or the environment we rely on. If this facility was deemed too risky for Sydney due to health concerns, why should it be acceptable in a regional farming community like ours?

Water is another major issue. Our drinking water comes from tanks, and supply for both households and farms is already precious. The enormous water requirements of this incinerator will place even more pressure on our limited resources — not to mention the risk of contamination to the surrounding environment and local catchments.

There is also the undeniable concern about smell, visual impact, and the stigma attached to living near a waste facility. This project does not align with the clean, green, and sustainable image our region is proud of.

Finally, the lack of genuine community consultation has left many of us feeling blindsided and unheard. Decisions that affect generations of not only farming families but all families should not be made without their full understanding and consent.

Parkes deserves better than to become a dumping ground for the city's waste.

I strongly oppose this proposal.

Sincerely

Sue Townsend