

**Submission
No 740**

INQUIRY INTO PROPOSED ENERGY FROM WASTE FACILITIES

Name: Miss Gemma Yeo

Date Received: 18 October 2025

Dear EFW Review Panel,

I strongly oppose the proposed Parkes Waste-to-Energy (WtE) incinerator. This project risks leaving future generations to manage toxic ash, degraded air quality, and lost opportunities for genuine waste reduction. If this facility is not considered safe for Sydney, it cannot be safe for any community. The threat of ecological contamination in our food, land, water, and air is unacceptable.

Young people, myself included, will bear the greatest long-term risks from this project. Children are particularly vulnerable to pollutants and toxic emissions, and the burden of these health impacts will fall on our generation. At a time when newer generations are driving innovation in green technologies and circular economies, WtE projects directly contradict these values and further entrench fossil fuel dependence. Such actions undermine our trust in government leadership and its commitment to a sustainable future.

There are far better alternatives available; such as banning single-use plastics and excessive packaging, and requiring companies to use biodegradable or recyclable materials. These solutions reduce waste at its source rather than attempting to burn it away.

The Parkes incinerator also lacks adequate safeguards for continuous, independent monitoring or community health protection. It undermines climate goals, produces toxic ash that still ends up in landfills, and locks communities into waste-generating contracts that conflict with NSW circular economy objectives. Economically, it is unsustainable and offers few jobs compared to investments in recycling, composting, and material recovery industries.

Sincerely,

Gemma Yeo