

Submission
No 767

**INQUIRY INTO PROPOSED ENERGY FROM WASTE
FACILITIES**

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 21 October 2025

Partially
Confidential

Submission Opposing the Proposed Waste Incinerator in Parkes Shire

From: _____, Concerned Resident

To Parkes Shire Council and the NSW State Government,

My name is _____. Like many others, my family and I moved to Parkes in search of a better life one with clean air, open spaces, and a strong, connected community. We fell in love with this town and its people.

But this proposed waste incinerator threatens everything we moved here for.

I'm writing today not only to object to this facility but to ask some serious and necessary questions of both the **Parkes Shire Council** and the **NSW State Government**. You are the decision-makers who should be accountable to the people you represent.

My Personal Concerns

I'm deeply worried about the **health impacts** this incinerator could bring especially for our children and grandchildren. These are not just numbers on a report they are our families. What long-term effects will this have on developing bodies, on immune systems, on respiratory health?

Both of my children are now married and live on farms nearby. They grow crops and raise cattle carrying on a legacy that has spanned generations. The very idea that these farming families could face **contamination or reputational damage** is heartbreaking. The agricultural sector is already under pressure this kind of industrial risk could push them over the edge.

Impact on the Broader Community

I also worry for the **small businesses in Parkes**. If families start to leave due to safety concerns or declining quality of life, who will keep these businesses afloat? We need population growth, not population loss.

And what about **property values**? What happens when people no longer want to buy or build near a toxic waste incinerator? Who is going to cover the loss in value to our homes, farms, and land? Many of us have worked our entire lives to own these properties will we now be forced to watch them lose value and become harder to sell?

Lack of Community Consultation

Most upsetting of all is the **lack of information and transparency** provided to the local community.

- Why weren't we told sooner?
- Why haven't there been open, honest town meetings where all residents can ask questions and receive real answers?

- Why does it feel like decisions are being made behind closed doors with those most affected left out of the conversation?

Questions for Parkes Shire Council:

1. **What public health impact studies** have been done on this incinerator, and where can we access them?
2. Will the Council **guarantee compensation** to landowners and farmers for any future loss in land value, productivity, or income?
3. What are the **economic projections** for Parkes if people begin to leave due to health fears or property value decline?
4. How does the Council plan to **protect the reputation** of Parkes as a clean, agricultural region?
5. Have any Council members or associates declared **conflicts of interest** or potential financial ties to the project?
6. Will the Council commit to a **public community forum** where all residents can speak directly with decision-makers and experts?

Questions for the NSW State Government:

1. Why is a **regional town like Parkes being targeted** for an industrial waste incinerator?
2. What **safeguards** are in place to ensure toxic emissions will not affect surrounding farms, schools, and homes?
3. Will the State Government commit to **covering medical costs** for any future health issues proven to be linked to the facility?
4. What is the **emergency response plan** if there is a failure, leak, or fire at the facility?
5. What **alternatives were considered**, and why were they rejected?

We moved here for peace, for health, and for a better way of life. If this incinerator goes ahead, it will undo all of that not just for my family, but for countless others. Please listen. Please stop this before it's too late.

Sincerely,

Parkes Shire Resident