

Submission
No 780

**INQUIRY INTO PROPOSED ENERGY FROM WASTE
FACILITIES**

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 28 October 2025

Partially
Confidential

To the Committee,

I am writing as a property owner and farmer in Gunningbland, as well as a resident of Parkes, to express my strong opposition to the proposed Energy to Waste facility to be constructed west of Parkes, NSW.

My objections are based on significant concerns regarding the potential impacts on agricultural production, land value, environmental safety, and community health.

1. Impact on Property Value

As a property owner, my farm is located approximately 10 kilometres west of the proposed facility. I am deeply concerned that the proximity of such a facility will result in the devaluation of my property. Having recently purchased the land after several years of leasing, I have invested considerable resources into new infrastructure to improve both its productivity and long-term value.

2. Risk of Contamination to Agricultural Produce

Our family farm produces prime lambs and wheat for human consumption. As fourth-generation farmers, we take great pride in maintaining the integrity and reputation of our produce. The introduction of an Energy-to-Waste facility poses unacceptable risks of contamination to our livestock and crops, potentially rendering them unsafe for consumption and damaging the economic viability of our farm.

3. Threats to Soil and Water Quality

I am particularly concerned about the potential release of toxic substances—often referred to as “forever chemicals” that could contaminate soil and water systems. These pollutants may have long-term, cumulative effects that are not yet fully understood. Even regulatory bodies such as the EPA cannot provide absolute assurance that emissions from such a facility would not adversely affect the surrounding land and environment. Once contamination occurs, remediation can take decades and the damage to productivity may be irreversible.

4. Health Impacts on the Parkes Community

As a lifelong resident of Parkes and a parent, I am deeply concerned about the potential health impacts emissions from the incinerator will have on my family and the wider community. The risk of air pollution and exposure to harmful substances could compromise the wellbeing of local residents and make living in the area untenable.

5. Environmental and Logistical Concerns

It is unreasonable for Sydney’s waste to be transported more than 350 kilometres to Parkes for disposal. The emissions and costs associated with transporting waste over such a distance undermine any environmental justification for the project. If the process is truly safe, it should be undertaken closer to the waste’s point of origin.

Conclusion

I respectfully urge the Committee to consider the significant environmental, economic, and social consequences that this facility would impose on local farmers and the residents of Parkes. The long-term risks to our land, livelihoods, and health far outweigh any potential short-term benefits.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my submission.

Yours sincerely,