

Submission  
No 786

**INQUIRY INTO PROPOSED ENERGY FROM WASTE  
FACILITIES**

**Name:** Name suppressed

**Date Received:** 28 October 2025

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Partially  
Confidential

## **To Whom It May Concern,**

My name is \_\_\_\_\_, and I have lived in Parkes my entire life. I was born here and I'm a third generation farmer. I work on my family's farm, alongside my children who plan to carry on the farm for the next generation. That future is now at serious risk due to the proposed Energy from Waste (EfW) incinerator being considered for Parkes.

If this facility causes the same impacts as seen overseas, our grain, livestock and soil could become contaminated with harmful substances like dioxins and furans. This would destroy our ability to sell our produce, cripple our livelihood, and devalue the land we've worked for generations. Our family and farm rely solely on tank water, which is highly vulnerable to airborne pollutants produced by incinerators. If even small amounts contaminate our water, our health and ability to farm are at serious risk.

There is a deep sense of injustice in Parkes being selected for such a facility. EfW incinerators are banned throughout NSW and the ACT, except for just four areas, Parkes being one of them. We are a clean, food producing region, yet we're being treated as the state's waste solution. Why should we bare the health and environmental risks for Sydney's red bin rubbish? If it is so safe, why was it rejected for Sydney. The financial cost of transporting 600 000 tonnes of waste by rail would be huge, let alone the environmental impact. How does this help achieve Net Zero?

Equally disturbing is the lack of transparency from our local council regarding this project which started planning as far back as 2018. As a community we only heard about it in March 2025. Many in the community feel blindsided and ignored, as though decisions have already been made behind closed doors without proper consultation or consideration for local families, farmers or future generations.

This project is not just a threat to the environment it's a threat to our livelihoods, our health and the future of farming in Parkes. I urge decision makers to reconsider this proposal and protect our region from irreparable harm. If my land loses value, if my livestock or crops are rejected due to contamination or even just market perception, who will compensate me? Where is the accountability?

Sincerely

Parkes Shire NSW