

Submission
No 814

**INQUIRY INTO PROPOSED ENERGY FROM WASTE
FACILITIES**

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 30 October 2025

Partially
Confidential

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my firm opposition to the proposed Parkes Energy Recovery (EfW) Incinerator planned for the Parkes Special Activation Precinct, NSW. While effective waste management and renewable energy are important goals, this project represents an unacceptable threat to public health, the environment, and our community's future.

Reasons for Opposition:

Serious Health Impacts

Incinerators emit toxic pollutants such as dioxins, heavy metals, and ultrafine particles known to cause cancer, respiratory illness, and other chronic diseases. These risks cannot be fully eliminated, no matter the technology or filtering systems used.

Environmental and Agricultural Harm

Toxic emissions and ash residues will contaminate soil, air, and water, undermining Parkes' clean agricultural reputation and endangering local ecosystems. Even minor contamination—or fear of it—could devastate farming livelihoods.

Cultural and Heritage Concerns

The site lies on Wiradjuri country, and the project disregards the deep cultural and spiritual significance of this land. Such harm is irreversible and incompatible with respect for First Nations heritage.

Unfair Treatment of Regional Communities

EfW facilities are prohibited in Sydney due to their health and environmental risks, yet one is being imposed on a regional area with less influence and fewer resources. Parkes should not be used as a testing ground for projects unfit for the city.

Poor Transparency and Consultation

Community engagement has been inadequate, and critical data on emissions, transport routes, and environmental impacts remain incomplete or unavailable. Genuine consultation requires openness and accountability, which have been lacking.

Unsustainable and Contradictory Goals

Long-term waste contracts will lock NSW into continued incineration rather than waste reduction, recycling, and circular economy initiatives—undermining real progress toward sustainability.

In short, this project endangers our health, damages our environment, and contradicts the principles of fairness and responsible governance. I urge decision-makers to reject the Parkes EfW proposal and instead support safe, transparent, and sustainable waste management solutions that align with community and environmental values.

Sincerely,