

Submission
No 822

**INQUIRY INTO PROPOSED ENERGY FROM WASTE
FACILITIES**

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 30 October 2025

Partially
Confidential

Veolia admit that the incinerator will exceed NSW Government Safety Standards for Emissions. In studies of overseas markets it has been shown that incinerators often exceed Safety Standards for Emissions, while other studies show that in the EU incinerators including new models are a major source of pollution which is having a negative effect on the health of people living there.

The emissions produced by incinerators contain particulates and assorted chemicals and metals, all are dangerous to the health of people living in a large area around the incinerators. The fall out from these incinerators pollutes the ground water, the soil and air which in turn will pollute local produce making all products from meat, fresh fruit and vegetables, poultry, eggs and wine unsuitable for human consumption. It will also affect the thousands of people who live in the area that relies on the water that is collected through rainwater harvesting for drinking.

ACT Government has banned Incinerators and NSW Government banned them in Sydney because they are not safe due to health issues they present to people and the environment both in the short term and the long term. A lot of developed countries that relied on incinerators for waste reduction are now moving away from them due to health issues of the public and the environment, as well as the cost to maintain the incinerators.

Incinerators produce more Co2 emissions per megawatt of power when compared to coal fired and gas power stations and considering fossil fuels are required to increase the temperature to burn waste, it is not a Renewable or clean source of power.

Burning waste will only change the state of the waste as the residual left overs after the process are highly toxic ash which will be buried in the ground where it will leach into the water table and pollute a large area. The plan of encasing the ash in concrete is only a short term solution as the concrete will break down in about 25 years and the toxins will then leach out.

Burning waste also will discourage councils from recycling as they will be encouraged to produce as much waste as they can to keep the incinerator burning or face fines for breach of contract, this means there is no incentive to recycle which in turn means more finite resources will be mined to produce products just to be incinerated after having been used once. This process goes against everything that has been put in place in recent times to reduce waste, ensure a cleaner environment and prevent global warming. An incinerator burning waste does not fit into the Zero emissions targets that Australia is working towards

There are more efficient ways of dealing with Sydney's rubbish, such as recycling, removing organic waste from the process which has a dramatic effect on the amount of waste going to landfill. All these ways use less energy, produce less emissions and create more jobs than burning waste for a small amount of electricity, a similar sized solar farm would produce about 12 times the electricity without polluting the environment.

In conclusion, there are better ways of dealing with Sydney's rubbish, by burning it in an incinerator is a quick and easy solution (out of sight out of mind) but it is the most damaging solution, it will pollute the environment and water ways including Sydney water as the area proposed is in the Sydney water catchment area, agriculture of all types will cease to produce as the products will be tainted, countries that look to Australia for fresh produce will have to go elsewhere, public health will deteriorate due to the pollution.