

Submission
No 834

**INQUIRY INTO PROPOSED ENERGY FROM WASTE
FACILITIES**

Name: Name suppressed

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Partially
Confidential

We, the people, do not consent to Veolia's proposal to build an Industrial Waste to Energy Incinerator next to the town of Tarago, in the Southern Goulburn Mulwaree. The people in Tarago and surrounding areas have already endured years of foul odours from Veolia's existing waste site because emission standards could not be met due to the facilities not being adequately maintained which resulted in fines due to license breaches. The EPA determined that Woodlawn's operations are a high risk to human health and the environment. It would be hypocritical to have incinerators running 24hrs per day for 365 days per year when most rural properties have restrictions for uses on their land e.g. Fires are not permitted in Summer, or structures permitted to be erected due to environmental concerns etc. Veolia admits that the incinerator will exceed the NSW Government safety standards and already have a history of polluting the environment near Tarago.

Rural properties are sanctuaries for people, as they provide cleaner air, hence why most people have moved away from the 'BIG SMOKE.' These people rely on tank water, growing their own produce, feeding livestock etc and simply want to farm their land without having the need to worry about incinerator contamination. No community member wants deadly particle matters from burning plastics as well as other garbage in their soil, air, water tanks and eventually in their bodies.

We have asthmatics in our family are are seriously concerned about the air pollutants which could cause death from respiratory problems.

Why was this proposal banned in Sydney?

Why should Sydney's rubbish be transported to a rural town which is hours away?

How will spillage be prevented going into farms, waterways etc?

Who will fix the roads from all the potholes the trucks will probably cause?

Why should families be forced to relocate?

Don't rural (people's) lives matter?

It would be indefensible for the NSW State Government to proceed with this industry whilst such damning and irrefutable evidence exists about the real pollution levels emitted by incinerators and the damage it will do to the region's health, (people and animals), environment and economy.

Isn't the will of the people, the basis of authority of government?

All public servants have a fiduciary duty to encompass a range of ethical and legal responsibilities to perform in the best interests of the public they serve. Public servants need to protect community health, provide transparency, and ensure waste is not diverted away from recycling. The State government should prioritise energy projects that aim for Zero Waste, encourage recycling; all that are genuinely clean and renewable. Any projects that go ahead should not be at the expense of the people and environment.

The State Government needs to lead by example and adhere to their own Net Zero Operations Government policy as to meet their 2030 targets.

Veolia cannot be trusted for many reasons; they have not complied to regulations, have not been transparent, and have not provided reliable data regarding, long term effects on soil, water, people's health. It appears that they are more concerned about profit. It is imperative that people's voices are heard and that Veolia's proposal is rejected in its entirety.