

Submission
No 856

**INQUIRY INTO PROPOSED ENERGY FROM WASTE
FACILITIES**

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 26 October 2025

Partially
Confidential

Dear Sir/Madam,

As a mother raising my children in the Parkes region, I feel compelled to voice my deep concern and opposition to the proposed Parkes Energy Recovery (Energy-from-Waste) Facility.

I want my children to grow up breathing clean air, drinking safe water, and feeling proud of our region's reputation for a healthy, sustainable lifestyle. This project threatens all of that.

1. Our children's health and future

No matter how advanced the technology is claimed to be, an incinerator that burns hundreds of thousands of tonnes of waste every year will still release pollutants into the air — including fine particles, heavy metals, and trace toxins. Children are especially vulnerable to these pollutants because their lungs and immune systems are still developing.

I cannot accept any project that could increase the risk of asthma, respiratory illness, or long-term health effects for our kids.

2. Importing Sydney's waste is unfair

It is deeply upsetting to think that waste from Sydney — hundreds of kilometres away — could be shipped here to our rural community. Parkes should not become the dumping ground for other people's rubbish.

Our town is known for its farming, its families, and its clean country lifestyle. Bringing in other regions' waste completely undermines that.

3. Risks to our environment and livelihoods

Many families here rely on the land. Our farms produce food that feeds Australians. Introducing a waste-burning facility nearby raises real fears about contamination of soil, water, and crops, and about the damage to the "clean and green" reputation of Parkes produce. Once that trust is lost, it can't easily be regained.

4. A safer, smarter way forward

We all agree that waste is a problem that needs real solutions — but burning it isn't the answer. True progress means reducing waste at the source, improving recycling, and supporting local innovation in reuse and composting.

If the billions proposed for this project were invested in those areas, we could create cleaner, safer, and longer-term jobs — without risking our community's wellbeing.

5. Please listen to local families

This proposal may look good on paper to companies and city planners, but it's our children who will live with the consequences. Many of us moved to regional NSW precisely because we wanted to raise our families in a clean, safe environment.

We are not anti-progress — we just want progress that protects our people, not projects that endanger them.

In conclusion, I strongly urge you to reject the Parkes Energy Recovery Facility proposal. Please protect our children's health, our environment, and the future of regional communities like ours.

Our families deserve better than to inherit the problems others don't want in their own backyard.

Thank you for taking the time to listen to a mother who simply wants her children to have a healthy future.