

Submission
No 861

**INQUIRY INTO PROPOSED ENERGY FROM WASTE
FACILITIES**

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 26 October 2025

Partially
Confidential

Submission to the NSW Legislative Council Select Committee on Proposed Energy from Waste Facilities

I am a local resident of Currawang NSW and I strongly oppose the proposed energy-from-waste incinerator facility in Tarago, NSW due to the serious risks it poses to human and animal health, air quality, and our local water resources. I wish to comment on a number of the terms of reference:

d) impacts on human health including on regional town drinking water, rainwater harvesting and soil contamination

My family and I live off-grid in this area by choice. We moved here to enjoy a clean, healthy environment and a better quality of life. We generate our own power, harvest rainwater, and actively work to reduce and manage our own waste responsibly. This lifestyle reflects our commitment to sustainability and to leaving a lighter footprint on the environment. The proposed incinerator directly threatens the very reasons we chose to live here.

Our reliance on rainwater as our sole water supply makes the risk of contamination particularly concerning. Airborne pollutants settling on roofs or in catchments could compromise our drinking water, our food supply and our health. Once pollutants like mercury or dioxins enter the soil or water, they can persist for decades. We have no choice but to collect our own water, this will all be contaminated by this incinerator.

We have had our own health battles over the years and have chosen to live and create a lifestyle that provides us a healthy lifestyle. The development of an incinerator risks this. Even with new technology, waste incineration produces toxic emissions such as fine particulates, dioxins, and heavy metals. These pollutants can travel long distances, contaminate soil and water, and accumulate in the food chain. Communities living near similar facilities overseas have reported higher rates of respiratory illness, cardiovascular disease, and certain cancers.

(f) alterations to the Parkes Special Activation Precinct specifically in relation to the proposed Energy Recovery Facility in that region (g) impacts of waste-dumping over a number of decades in the Tarago region

Reduce the creation of waste will reduce the need for an incinerator and dumping of waste for decades in our community. We live a minimalist lifestyle, produce little waste, reuse what we can and recycle. I don't have a weekly waste collection at my door step, I have to monitor and reduce what we use. However this incinerator is expecting us to be impacted by the waste of Sydney and other communities as they choose or are not provided alternate options to reduce their waste

(e) the impact on agriculture locally and across the wider region

This facility threatens local agriculture and biodiversity, damaging the clean reputation of our region and the livelihoods of those who farm here. Many of the farms in the area are managed by third generations. The incinerator will impact the crops, animals as part of the farming in the area. These will be impacted by the pollinates who are unable to escape the pollinates.

(j) any other related matters

The traffic bringing the waste of Sydney and other areas will continue to damage the roads we travel on every day and risk our safety. The roads in the area are not highways they are rural roads not designed for the amount of laden truck traffic to manage the amount of waste over decades. The roads cross multiple council boundaries, the maintenance of the roads needs to be maintained for our community's safe travel.

Thank you for reading my submission. Please support the community and my health and do not allow this and other waste incinerator be built in our communities.