

Submission
No 868

**INQUIRY INTO PROPOSED ENERGY FROM WASTE
FACILITIES**

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 28 October 2025

Partially
Confidential

State Parliament of New South Wales

**INQUIRY INTO PROPOSED ENERGY FROM WASTE
FACILITY TO BE BUILT IN**

The Parkes Special Activation Precinct

I, am _____, a constituent and resident of “Melleray” _____ for over thirty (30) years and **wish to submit my objections** to the erection and operation of the Energy to Waste Incinerator proposed for development eight (8) kilometres west of the townships’ Central Business District (CBD) due to grave health, economic and environmental concerns.



An aerial photograph of the Parkes Activation Precinct.

Note: location and the surrounding edible crops.

My concerns are:

1. **Operating Temperature of Incinerator:** The thermal gas (fossil fuelled) fired incinerator proposed at an operation temperature of less than one thousand (1000) degrees Celsius is far too low. It needs to operate at least at one thousand nine hundred (1900) degrees Celsius to stabilise the interactions of chemicals that will combine into toxins which are then be discharged via the flue stacks into the atmosphere are toxic and harmful to humans and the environment. NB. Currently the National University of Singapore (NUS) and Nanyang Technological University (NTU) are actively researching into Energy to Waste Incinerators and Sustainable Management of Waste. The Experimental Facility opened in 2019 operates at the temperature of 1600 degrees Celsius and does not produce bottom ash. It is an interesting fact that the bottom ash created from the Energy to Waste incinerators in operation in Singapore and are deposited into an offshore Semakau landfill waste management facility has an impermeable membrane surrounding the waste deposition areas to prevent leeching into the surrounding areas and water! One must ask why? I also noted that the National University of Singapore has noted with their present research modelling and the incinerator that they have built that the cost of operating such a modern incinerator that its profitability even with the production of energy would not be profitable and that the Singaporean Government would need to re-educate their population to reduce, re-use and recycle waste even without the bottom waste being produced! Personally, I find it very worrying that **Singapore can acknowledge that it exports hazardous waste to Australia**, and it difficult to find on any Australian government site, that, will disclose the exact details of what the waste and its chemical

composition other than a slight reference to scrap metals from Japan that is currently available dated 2012 on the ABS!

More importantly on the ABS site it states:



HAZARDOUS WASTE

What is hazardous waste?

Hazardous Waste is waste that poses substantial or potential threats to public health or the environment. It generally relates to materials that are known or tested to exhibit one or more of the following four hazardous traits:

2. *ignitability.*
3. *reactivity.*
4. *corrosivity.*
5. *toxicity.*

The international movement of hazardous waste is managed by the Basel Convention, an international treaty designed to reduce and regulate the movements of hazardous waste between nations. The Basel Convention was brought into force in 1992 and now has membership of over 170 countries, including Australia who has been a signatory since 1992.

Hazardous waste refers to the solids, liquids, or contained gases generated by industrial processes that pose a substantial present or potential hazard to human health or the environment when improperly treated, stored or disposed. Examples of common hazardous wastes include spent auto batteries, spent solvents, and sludges from industrial wastewater treatment units.

*Over recent years the amount of hazardous waste has increased due to a number of factors including:
population growth and the associated increase in demand for goods and services;
growth in trade in chemical products and increased use of oils, pesticides, acids and alkalis;
an increase in the amount of hazardous components in household waste; and
improved health care which has led to more clinical and pharmaceutical waste.*

Source(s): [Waste Account, Australia, Experimental Estimates](#)

Imports of waste material

In 2011-12 Australia imported 685,000 tonnes of waste material valued at \$139 million which represents only 0.05% of the value of Australia's total

imports. In the last decade there has only been a small increase in the share of waste imports to total imports, up from 260,000 tonnes of waste material valued at \$58 million in 2000-01 (0.04% of the value of Australia's total imports).

Table 2: Waste Imports 2011-12

Category	Gross weight (‘000 tonnes)	Value (FOB) (a) (\$m)
Glass	7	(b)0
Hazardous	8	24
Metals	620	88
Organics	10	6
Other	18	10
Paper & Cardboard	2	1
Plastics	6	3
Rubber	2	2
Timber	11	6

(a) (FOB) - Free on Board (see glossary for definition)

(b) Less than \$500,000

As with exports Australia’s major waste material imported was metals. In terms of weight, the main item of waste metal imported in 2011-12 was 574,000 tonnes of granulated slag valued at \$2 million. In monetary value Australia’s primary waste metal import was gold waste and scrap valued at \$60 million (2 tonnes), followed by aluminium and copper waste metals valued at \$11 million (5,200 tonnes).

Australia’s main trading partners in 2011-12 for imported waste products were Japan, New Zealand, USA, **Singapore** and China. Eighty eight percent (601,000 tonnes) of Australia's total waste imports came from Japan, mainly in the form of granulated slag from the manufacture of iron and steel.

From New Zealand, Australia imported waste glass, waste metals and waste

organics. Eighty five percent (6,000 tonnes) of total waste glass materials were imported from New Zealand in 2011-12.

In 2011-12 Australia's imports of hazardous waste came mainly from Singapore (\$18 million) in the form of waste oils and petroleum products.

The information that has been provided so far is far from satisfactory. We require and are entitled to, that all information be scientifically and forensically analysed so that informed controls and decisions are made with direct communication and consultation with the constituents of the Shire of Parkes and the surrounding regions involved.

Table 2 - uploaded by [Yahia E.-A. Mohamedzein](#)
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[Download](#) [View publication](#)

Compound	(%)
Silicon Dioxide (SiO ₂)	13.24
Aluminum Oxide (Al ₂ O ₃)	20.13
Ferric Oxide (Fe ₂ O ₃)	2.01
Calcium Oxide (CaO)	36.83
Magnesium Oxide (MgO)	0.34
Loss-on-ignition (LOI)	27.39
Element	(mg/l)
Arsenic (As)	0.14
Barium (Ba)	5.87
Calcium (Ca)	2,350
Cadmium (Cd)	0.02
Chromium (Cr)	0.20
Copper (Cu)	25.50
Iron (Fe)	6.61
Potassium (K)	94.10
Magnesium (Mg)	258
Manganese (Mn)	1.01
Sodium (Na)	261
Nickel (Ni)	0.13
Lead (Pb)	1.35
Zinc (Zn)	4.80

Chemical composition of incinerator ash

Source publication

Incinerator ash	Flow (%)	Flow (kg/m ³)	Flow (kg/m ³)	Flow (kg/m ³)
Job and Top (1991)	100	100	100	100
1-97	80	80	80	80
1-10	20	20	20	20
0.05-0.10	0.02-0.08	0.02-0.08	0.02-0.08	0.02-0.08
0.5	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5
5	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3
10-50	5M	5M	5M	5M
71	2.51	2.51	2.51	2.51

The Use of Municipal Solid Waste Incinerator Ash to Stabilize Dune Sands

Article | Full-text available | Dec 2012

Yahia E.-A. Mohamedzein · Mohammed Al Aghbari

Dune sands are problematic soils because they have low shear strength and are susceptible to collapse upon wetting. Dosages of municipal solid waste incinerator ash between 10 and 80 % were used to improve the engineering properties of dune sands. The soil-ash mixtures were allowed to cure for periods from 7 to 90 days. Laboratory tests such as com...

Cite | [Download full-text](#)

Reference: [Chemical composition of incinerator ash | Download Table](#) from the research work carried out by the National University of Singapore.

2. Red Bin controls: How will the NSW Government control and monitor **what waste is placed in the red bins** in and around the Greater Sydney Basin Area? This is fraught with difficulty on all accounts. The total disregard for the environment by many businesses and industrial sectors and various communities is staggering. The laissez-faire attitude of individuals to not become involved in protecting our environment is impossible to fathom and control! Far too many business operatives take the cheap option as do individuals when shopping. Sadly, most ends up in Red Bins!

3. The effect on Human Health: As broken glass, porcelain statues, pottery, dinner ware, plastics and old Tupperware pieces especially those produced prior to 2010 are dangerous and injurious to human health.

For example:

Warnings have been regularly made concerning Vintage Tupperware made prior to 2010 that it contains lead which was added in the creation of the plastic containers as a colourant and to make it more pliable along with other heavy metals like arsenic and cadmium and should not be used. They invariably end up in residential **Red Bins for disposal.**

My other concern is chemical interactions with the chemicals used in ceramics in the Energy to Waste Incinerators. **Having been a ceramist and potter for many years** I know and am familiar with the chemicals used in Pottery and Glass in both the past and the present day. They are of a major concern being that the chemicals used in the production of pieces and interactions of these

chemicals and their behaviour at different firing temperatures up to 1300 Degrees Celsius. A Raku firing for example at 850 to 1000 degrees Celsius still produces very acidic emissions that scald the lungs and throat. Work health and safety requires that all handling and firing be done in a well-ventilated environment and protective wear be worn including respirators in such production.

Is the parliament aware that Uranium oxide (UO_2) was used in pottery glazes to create vibrant colours like orange, red, yellow, and green, peaking in popularity during the 1930s and 1940s. It was also used in the production to glass. If chipped or broken it should be disposed of immediately as the radiation escapes through the chipped, scratched or fractured surface . Sadly, if dropped or broken **they will end up in the Red Bin!**

The Ceramic Industry uses a wide variety of chemicals and substances both natural and synthetic compounds in its production. The specific chemicals depend on the desired properties, colours, and the firing temperature which I have listed below.

Clay Bodies and Glazes:

The clay itself is a chemical compound and can be combined with various additives to alter its properties, such as plasticity, shrinkage, and fired colour.

- **Kaolin** ($Al_2Si_2O_5(OH)_4$)
 $Al_2Si_2O_5(OH)_4$
- **Ball clay:** *A highly plastic, fine-grained clay used to increase the workability of a clay body.*
- **Silica** (SiO_2)
- **Feldspar:** *A group of aluminosilicate minerals ($KAlSi_3O_8$)*
- **Grog:** *Ground-up, pre-fired clay that reduces shrinkage and adds texture.*
- **Bentonite** ($Al_2H_2Na_2O_{13}Si_4$)
- **Bone ash:** *Calcined animal bone ($Ca_5(OH)(PO_4)_3$)*
- **Fluxes:** *Chemicals that lower the melting point of silica so it can form a glass at typical kiln temperatures.*
- **Alkaline earth metals:** *Calcium carbonate ($CaCO_3$)*

- **Alkali metals:** Lithium carbonate (Li_2CO_3)
- **Boron compounds:** Gerstley borate and boric oxide (B_2O_3)

Colorants:

Colorants are metal oxides that produce specific colours and effects depending on the glaze composition and firing atmosphere (oxidation or reduction).

- **Cobalt oxide** (CoO)
- **Copper carbonate** (CuCO_3)
- **Iron oxides** (Fe_2O_3) and (Fe_3O_4)
- **Chromium oxide** (Cr_2O_3)
- **Manganese dioxide** (MnO_2)
- **Nickel oxide** (NiO)
- **Rare earth elements:** Such as praseodymium and neodymium, used to create green and violet colors in glazes.

Opacifiers and other modifiers

- **Tin oxide** (SnO_2)
- **Zirconium silicate** (ZrSiO_4)
- **Titanium dioxide** (TiO_2)
- **Frit:** A pre-mixed combination of glaze materials that have been melted, cooled, and ground back into powder. This renders toxic or soluble materials insoluble.

Chemicals for firing and surface effects

- **Salt (sodium chloride),** (NaCl)
or **soda ash (sodium carbonate),** (Na_2CO_3)
- **Ferric chloride** (FeCl_3)

Safety considerations

Many chemicals used in pottery are toxic, especially in their raw, powdered form, and require careful handling.

- **Silica dust:** The inhalation of fine silica particles from clay and glaze powders can cause silicosis, a serious lung disease.
- **Toxic metals:** Heavy metals like lead, cadmium, barium, and chromium are hazardous to health and can leach from improperly formulated or fired glazes, especially when used on dinnerware.

- **Kiln fumes:** *Firing can release toxic gases and metal fumes, including carbon monoxide, sulphur oxides, and heavy metal vapours. Proper ventilation is critical.*

As you can see there is a myriad number of chemicals involved that are used in various combinations to produce ceramics. Ceramics are present in a wide range of areas in use in our communities from the kitchen (cookware and dinnerware, lounge rooms statues to the bathroom necessities such as the basin, the toilet and bathtub.

When broken or discarded they usually end up in the Red Bin! This is just one area of concern let alone the dumping of toys that have lithium-ion batteries in them that people are unaware of especially people whose command of English is poor. It goes without saying sadly; they are more than likely to be placed in the **Red Bin** bound for the incinerator!

4. High Ambient temperatures and the storage of waste

High atmosphere temperatures are experienced in Parkes **45 to 47 degrees Celsius** usually experienced in the second week of the month of February each year. Which will be exacerbated in the structures of the incinerator and the working conditions for workers involved in the processing of the waste and the surrounding industrial operations in the Parkes Special Activation Precinct, let alone the residents of the Parkes Community. With the storage of plastic bottles in and around the Incinerator awaiting processing and the effect of the high atmospheric temperatures that are experienced in Parkes and the surrounding environs one must question the safety of such a practice. As all Australians hopefully are aware of when re-entering a parked locked motor vehicle on a hot summer's day we are advised not to immediately enter the car but to let the

fumes escape that have amassed in the vehicle from the plastics and vinyl linings which emit toxins.

A parked car in Australia emits fumes including carbon monoxide (CO)

carbon dioxide (CO₂)

volatile organic compounds (VOCs),

nitrogen oxides (NO_x)

These fumes are harmful, contributing to air pollution, smog, climate change, and posing health risks such as respiratory infections, diabetes, and cancer.

When plastics are exposed to high atmospheric temperatures, they can release a variety of fumes, including potent greenhouse gases like methane and ethylene, as well as a range of toxic chemicals such as dioxins, furans, carbon monoxide, and volatile organic compounds (VOCs).

Exposing plastics to high atmospheric temperatures, even without burning, can cause them to release a complex mix of volatile organic compounds (VOCs), microplastics, and chemical additives. The specific fumes and particles released depend on the type of plastic and the additives used in its manufacturing.

General fumes from heated plastics

Common fumes emitted from a variety of heated plastics include:

- **Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs):** *This is a broad category of harmful chemicals released into the air by many types of plastics, including benzene, toluene, and xylene.*
- **Microplastics:** *Higher temperatures accelerate the degradation of plastics, causing them to break down and shed tiny microplastic and submicron particles into the environment.*
- **Chemical Additives:** *Plastics are made with additives to improve their durability, flexibility, or heat resistance. When heated, these additives, such as phthalates and flame retardants, can leach or "off-gas" into the air.*
- **Greenhouse Gases:** *Studies show that plastics can emit greenhouse gases, including methane and ethylene, particularly as they degrade in the environment over time.*

Fumes from specific plastic types

Different types of plastic release unique sets of chemicals when exposed to heat:

- **Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC):** *When heated, PVC can release hydrogen chloride, a corrosive and toxic gas. If it gets hot enough to burn, PVC is particularly toxic, producing dioxins, furans, and phosgene gas, a chemical warfare agent.*
- **Acrylonitrile Butadiene Styrene (ABS):** *This plastic, often used in 3D printing and car interiors, releases styrene and butadiene when heated. The fumes can cause headaches and nausea, and both compounds are classified as possible human carcinogens.*
- **Polystyrene (PS):** *Heating polystyrene (Styrofoam) can release styrene monomer into the air. This process can be accelerated by contact with hot, acidic, or fatty foods.*
- **Polyethylene Terephthalate (PET):** *During thermal degradation, PET can release various chemicals, including ethylene oxide and benzene.*
- **Automotive plastics:** *The "new car smell" comes from the off-gassing of VOCs from interior plastics, adhesives, and sealants. Studies have found that high temperatures in parked cars can cause formaldehyde and acetaldehyde levels to exceed safety limits.*

Health and environmental implications

Breathing in these fumes is a health concern, especially with long-term exposure.

- **Respiratory irritation:** *Many of the compounds released from heated plastics can cause irritation of the eyes, nose, and respiratory tract.*
- **Organ damage and cancer:** *Long-term exposure to some of these chemicals has been linked to cancer and other health issues, including damage to the liver and kidneys.*
- **Endocrine disruption:** *Chemical additives like phthalates are endocrine disruptors that can interfere with hormone functions.*
- **Microplastic inhalation:** *Research has shown that microplastics can be inhaled and have been found in human lung tissue, which poses a risk to cardiovascular and cerebrovascular health.*
- **Environmental contamination:** *The chemicals released during plastic degradation do not just affect the air. They can also persist in water and land, where they bioaccumulate in the food chain*

As Melbourne's recycling stockpiles keep growing, so does the fire risk posed by the waste

By Jack Kerr

Disasters, Accidents and Emergency Incidents

Sun 21 Oct 2018




The cause of the 2017 fire at the Coolaroo recycling facility has not been determined. (Twitter: Paul Stacchino)

The collection of plastics must be controlled at all levels of processing from the collection of plastics from the households from initially placing them in the **plastic Red Bins from individual households**, the storage and transportation the plastics to the incinerator under strict conditions and controls.

The other concern is the **US Waste Solutions Provider Bright Mark** and its failed projects and the number of times it has faced multiple pollution problems with the handling the plastics along with several workplace chemical spills and fires. The storage of huge amounts of plastics is a huge environmental problem as can be seen by the number of fires already that have been experienced in Sydney and Melbourne.

Fires in Melbourne and Victoria

Recycling plant and waste fires are a recurring issue in Melbourne and greater Victoria. 

- **SKM Coolaroo fire (2017):** An inferno at the SKM recycling facility in Coolaroo burned for weeks. The Environment Protection Authority (EPA) later established a task force to audit recycling facilities and mitigate fire risks.
- **Campbellfield chemical fire (2019):** A massive industrial fire in Campbellfield, sparked by illicitly stockpiled chemical waste, burned for three days and released toxic smoke over the city.
- **Close the Loop fire (2022):** A fire on the production line of a soft plastics recycler in outer Melbourne led to the collapse of the national REDcycle program. The facility was an integral part of the scheme, and its closure caused massive amounts of plastic waste to be stockpiled.
- **Waste and resource recovery fires (2017–2021):** A Victorian government report identified 208 fire incidents at waste and resource recovery facilities, though it noted that up to 50% may have been misattributed or occurred at nearby businesses.
- **Kealba landfill fire (2019-ongoing):** A slow-burning fire at a landfill in Melbourne's west, where waste was stored, was first reported in 2019. It continued to be an issue for years, with residents still waiting for it to be fully resolved in 2023. 

abc.net.au/news/melbourne-recycling-facilities-pose...



Share article 

Dozens of Victorian recycling centres require "urgent attention" to prevent more fires in suburban communities, as China's ban on importing rubbish fuels the growth of hazardous waste stockpiles around Melbourne.

But the taskforce put in charge of cleaning up the industry after [last year's massive blaze at Coolaroo, in the city's north](#), is yet to visit hundreds of facilities on its list.

With summer fast approaching and recycling waste piling up around the state, there are fears more waste-fuelled infernos could break out soon.

"We probably have a number of Coolaroos waiting to happen," Deakin University hazardous materials expert Trevor Thornton said.

"What we are seeing are larger fires that are a result of more stockpiling of material, more waste being generated, and it's more difficult to keep control of what's going into these facilities," Dr Thornton said.

"I think the community is probably a little bit worried."

The July 2017 inferno at the SKM Recycling facility in Coolaroo burnt for weeks, resulting in [warnings for locals to evacuate and complaints of illnesses](#).

Key points:

More than 100 fires have broken out in Victorian recycling facilities in 10 years

A taskforce has identified many facilities remain "high-risk", and five are "extreme" risk

The industry is struggling to deal with plastics since China cracked down on waste imports

Fires in Sydney and New South Wales

Sydney and greater New South Wales have also experienced fires at waste storage and recycling sites. [@](#)


- **St Marys recycling plant (February 2025):** A major fire at a recycling plant required over 100 firefighters and led to the evacuation of nearby businesses. The blaze involved exploding gas cylinders and chemicals.
- **Villawood recycling plant (October 2024):** A large fire involving shredded mattresses and other materials produced thick, black smoke and led to evacuations. Firefighters had to contend with water supply issues.
- **Matraville paper storage plant (September 2025):** A relentless fire at a paper recycling factory required a large response from Fire and Rescue NSW, who had to pull apart large stacks of paper to extinguish deep-seated hotspots.
- **State-wide waste fires (2014–2016):** An academic paper noted that from 2014 to April 2016, there were 197 waste fires in NSW facilities, according to data from the state's Environment Protection Authority (EPA).
- **Cleanaway conviction (recent):** Waste management company Cleanaway was fined for a Sydney fire that injured a worker. [@](#)

Contributing factors

The frequency of these fires is attributed to several factors, including:

- **Stockpiling:** Recycling facilities often struggle with oversupply, particularly after China restricted waste imports. Large stockpiles of combustible material pose a major fire risk.

ABC News < > ⋮ ×

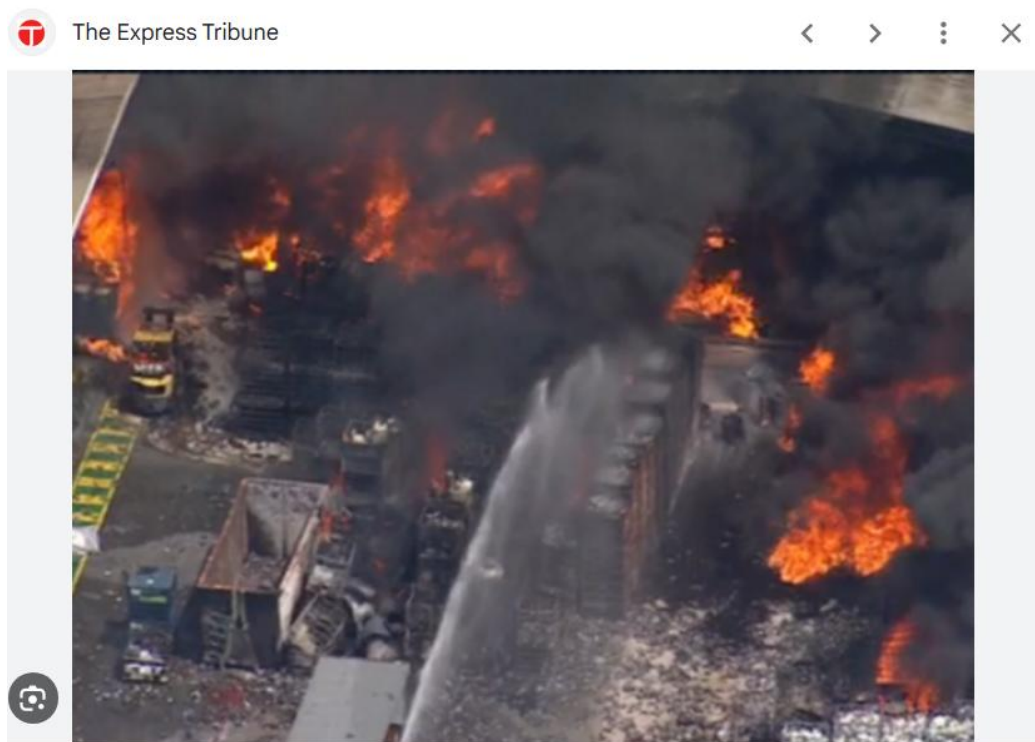


As Melbourne's recycling stockpiles keep growing, so does the fire risk posed by the waste - ABC News [Visit >](#)

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The storage of plastic and wastes must be forcefully controlled at all times. With the now major concern of late being the **nano particles attributed to plastic dust in the atmosphere.**

A fire in Parkes would be extremely hard to contain due to the proximity of the combustible crops of wheat and canola. It would be devastating and more likely to consume not only the Activation Precinct but also the township along with terrible loss of life!



Sydney fire: st marys waste facility blaze triggers gas bottle explosions

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5. The Issue of water.

At the information session conducted in Parkes Pavillon by the proponents; (Parkes Energy Recovery) for the development of the incinerator when inquiries were made regarding from where they were sourcing the water from, required for the operation of the plant and furnace? **The reply was from the town water supply!** What happens when we have the next drought? Good clean Water a life essential. Having lived through many times of drought here in Parkes with strict water restrictions.


COMMUNITY

'Your voices will be heard' at drop-in sessions

APR 09 2025 > UPDATED APRIL 9, 2025

Mid West Media

Share this article



Parkes Energy Recovery is encouraging residents to attend their community drop-in sessions at the Cooke Park Pavilion that run for three days.

Representatives from Parkes Energy Recovery want to reassure the community their voices will be heard during this week's community drop-in sessions.

A consortium led by Tribe Infrastructure Group is delivering the Parkes Energy Recovery, a proposed Energy from Waste facility to be located within the Parkes Special Activation Precinct.

The news has been met with uneasy feelings from many residents in Parkes since it was announced on 24 March.

Parkes Energy Recovery wants to encourage and remind residents to attend their community drop-in sessions at the Cooke Park Pavilion that begin 10 April, from 8am to 5pm and run until Saturday, 12 April.

These sessions will be run by Parkes Energy Recovery, with representatives from the Regional Growth Development Corporation NSW and air quality and human health specialists in attendance to answer questions and provide detailed information on the technology, operations and process of the proposed facility.

The 2019 drought in Parkes saw severe water restrictions invoked by the Parkes Shire Council to conserve water.

Presently, today 24th October 2025 the Parkes Shire Council website states that Level one restrictions are already invoked

The screenshot shows the Parkes Shire Council website page for water restrictions. The browser address bar displays the URL: <https://www.parkes.nsw.gov.au/Services/Customer-service/Rates-charges-and-online-payments/Water-and-Sewer/Water-restrictions>. The website header includes the Parkes Shire Council logo, a search bar, and navigation links for Contact Us, Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, and English. The main navigation menu features Home, Council, Community, Development, Services, and Visit. The breadcrumb trail reads: Home / Services / Customer service / Rates, charges and online payments / Water and Sewer / Water restrictions. On the left, an 'In This Section' sidebar lists various services. The main content area is titled 'Water restrictions' and includes a 'Listen' button. The text explains that Parkes Shire Council implements water usage restrictions under the Local Government Regulation to ensure water supply is preserved during drought or other water scarcity. A link for 'Water Restrictions Level 1 to 6 Overview' is provided. Under 'Current Notices', there is a 'Water Restriction Notice - Level 1: Parkes Shire Local Government Area' which states that Regulation 137 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 permits water restrictions in the Parkes Shire Local Government area in case of a supply shortage, effective from Monday 23 November 2020. At the bottom, there are expandable sections for 'Domestic Uses', 'Non-Residential Use', and 'Level 1 Water Restriction FAQs'.

https://www.parkes.nsw.gov.au/Services/Customer-service/Rates-charges-and-online-payments/Water-and-Sewer/Water-restrictions

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Parkes
Shire Council

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In This Section

- Animals and pets
- Biosecurity
- Business and trading
- Central West Family Day Care
- Customer service
- Contact us
- Compliments, complaints and feedback
- Forms A-Z
- Justice of the Peace services
- Rates, charges and online payments

Water restrictions Listen

To effectively manage water supply and security for our residents, Parkes Shire Council implements restrictions on water usage under the Local Government Regulation, to ensure water supply is preserved in times of drought or other water scarcity.

[Water Restrictions Level 1 to 6 Overview](#)

Current Notices

Water Restriction Notice - Level 1: Parkes Shire Local Government Area

Notice is hereby given under Regulation 137 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005, which permits the use of water to be restricted in the Parkes Shire Local Government area if there is a shortage of supply. This notice shall take effect from Monday 23 November 2020 and shall remain in effect until varied by further notice.

Domestic Uses +

Non-Residential Use +

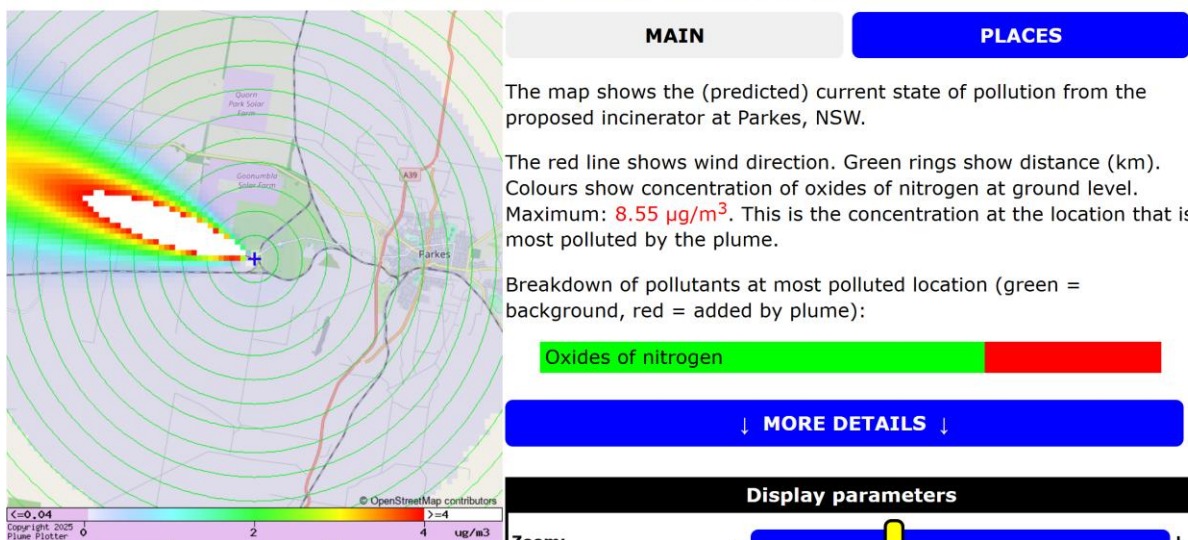
Level 1 Water Restriction FAQs +

RESIDENTIAL WATER USE - Target Water Consumption						
Activity	Level 1 260 litres /person/day	Level 2 240 litres /person/day	Level 3 220 litres /person/day	Level 4 200 litres /person/day	Level 5 160 litres /person/day	Level 6 120 litres /person/day
Watering of Lawns Subject to varying Summer and Winter Times	Watering systems, microsprays, drip systems, soaker hoses, non-fixed sprinklers, handheld hoses only. Summer Time Before 10.00am and after 5.00pm Winter Time Before 10.00am and after 5.00pm	Watering systems, non-fixed sprinklers, hand-held hoses, microsprays, drip systems, soaker hoses only. Summer Time Before 10.00am After 5.00pm every second day as per odds and evens system. Winter Time Before 10.00am and after 5.00pm every second day as per odds and evens system	Hand held hoses, microsprays, drip systems, soaker hoses only. Maximum of 2 hours within the following times: Summer Time between 6.00am - 9.00am and 6.00pm - 9.00pm Winter Time between 6.00am - 9.00am and 6.00pm - 9.00pm	Not permitted	Not permitted	Not permitted

There is an imperative need to consider the effects on residents that rely solely on rainwater and the threat of contamination of their rainwater tanks for drinking and bathing. A huge number of surrounding farmers and some residents in the township rely solely on this as their only source and access to drinking water.

Parkes Plume Plotter

Parkes incinerator plume
at 13:00 on Sat, 25 Oct 2025



Would you like to have your drinking water contaminated?

- 6. Flooding and storms;** Parkes experiences severe storms in and around the month of November each year causing much damage to roads and personal property. How will the incinerator and the storage of the waste awaiting to be placed in the incinerator be affected? How will the waste be contained in such events and not contaminate and leech into soil into the surrounding areas and farms?
- 7. Control of infestations** where rubbish is being stored before being placed in the incinerator. What controls will be placed to stop such infestations infiltrating the residents of Parkes Homes and Businesses? Mice can nibble through electric cabling easily that can result in fires. They bring disease, destroy crops, household furnishing, cabling in vehicles and the environment.

Mice start breeding at six weeks of age and can have a litter every 21 days after that, meaning a pair of mice can give rise to 500 offspring in a season.



"I would rather a locust plague over a mice plague," says farmer Allan Inglis. DEAN SEWELL

Mouse plague poison kills dozens of birds in New South Wales

Animal rescue worker shocked by piles of dead galahs in Parkes cemetery says 'I felt broken'



CSIRO's Steve Henry says poison used to control mouse plague should pose low risk to birdlife but 'people do inappropriate things ... This nearly always happens when there is a [mouse] outbreak.' Photograph: Kelly Lacey



The mice eat through anything including grain, fallen galahs, hay and the electrics of machinery. DEAN SEWELL

Then there are the swarms of locusts that periodically attack Parkes ruining crops and the radiators in vehicles and machinery.

Locust plague begins to strike farms in western New South Wales

By Lucy Thackray and Jessie Davies

NSW Country Hour

Root Eating Insects

Tue 21 Apr 2020



Landholders are being asked to report locust activity to Local Land Services to help biosecurity experts stop the destructive insects from spreading. (Supplied: NSW DPI)

CWD Central Western Daily

A large dust storm is shown over Dubbo, Parkes. The sky is dark and filled with a thick layer of dust, which is rolling over the town. The town is visible in the foreground, with buildings and roads. The dust storm is a massive, dark wall of dust that is moving across the landscape.

Dust storm, Dubbo, Parkes: Sky turned black as dust rolled over | Video, photos | Central Western Daily |...

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The above photograph of one of the dust storms that was experienced in 2020 as a result of the severe drought of 2019.

8. **Acid rain** and the effect that will corrode the solar panels on residents home and the huge monetary joint investments by our governments in the creation of solar farms to produce sustainable energy.

Steam is the gaseous form of water is a greenhouse gas when released into the atmosphere. Sadly, it combines with Nitrogen and other naturally occurring gases and pollutants to produce acid rain.

People may think they have a solution by the installation of this proposal for a huge incinerator to be placed in the Parkes Activation Precinct as a quick solution to the burden of modern-day waste; **it is not!**

What I require of this Inquiry is to address each of my eight (8) concerns with due diligence and the desire to delved deeper into all the greenwashing that have been presented by the proponents whose long-term pecuniary interests are their primary motivation in this project not the people of Australia and Parkes.

We need and require a complete forensic investigation done by forensic chemists and forensic medical practitioners into the effects on human health and the environment in which we live. Independent from the EPA who are employed public servants.

Waste Contamination from human activity effects everyone from our major cities to our outback, **it is all our responsibility!** We must address this in an innovative and reasoned manner with reliable and trustworthy information on

which to move forward. We have the intelligence to determine and investigate other progressive methods such as the National University of Singapore's research and modelling of future more efficient incinerators that could be placed in safer and more appropriate areas, not in Parkes!

Thank you for allowing me to voice my concerns to this NSW Parliamentary Inquiry. I respectfully request a written response addressing each my concerns.

Yours sincerely

“Melleray”

Email:

Phone:

All tables have been sourced and tabulated from current information available both from my own personal knowledge and experience as a Ceramicist, my own reference library and reliable internet sources as indicated.

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- Budget Estimates
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Submission Submitted



Your entry has been sent to the committee for review.

Entries are received subject to formal review and acceptance as a submission by the committee. Submissions are formally acknowledged on acceptance.