

Submission
No 882

**INQUIRY INTO PROPOSED ENERGY FROM WASTE
FACILITIES**

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 29 October 2025

Partially
Confidential

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is _____, and I am a young resident of Parkes, NSW. I am writing to strongly oppose the proposal to build an Energy-from-Waste (EfW) incinerator in our town. As someone who hopes to build a future here, I have significant concerns about the long-term consequences this facility would have on my health, the health of my community, and the future liveability of Parkes.

This incinerator does not belong in Parkes. It's the wrong project, in the wrong place, and it puts my future—and the future of my generation—at risk.

1. Health Risks to My Generation and Community

The science is clear: waste incinerators release toxic pollutants into the air which are known to cause serious health problems like cancer, asthma, heart disease, and birth defects.

As a young person, I ask you: how is it fair to risk the health of an entire community for the sake of burning other people's rubbish? Our town deserves clean air, clean water, and a healthy environment to grow up in—not one polluted by industrial waste emissions.

2. This Project Threatens My Future in Parkes

Like many young people, I want to live in a place that values sustainability, health, and community. I want to stay in Parkes, work here, and contribute to its future. But if this incinerator is approved, it sends a clear message that the wellbeing of local residents—especially younger generations—is not a priority.

Why would young families, professionals, or businesses choose to settle in a town that is known for burning toxic waste? It will only push people away and limit opportunities for the future.

We need clean industries, education, renewable energy, and innovation—not waste-burning plants.

3. Parkes Should Not Be Used as a Dumping Ground

It's obvious that this project is not about solving a local problem—it's about dumping Sydney and metropolitan waste in rural NSW because it's politically easier to get away with. That's deeply unfair.

Parkes is not a dumping ground. We are not expendable. Just because we are regional does not mean we are disposable. Our health matters. Our voices matter.

4. There Are Better Alternatives

Incineration is an outdated and harmful way to deal with waste. It encourages more waste production and destroys resources that could be recycled or reused.

We should be investing in real, forward-thinking solutions like:

- Better recycling systems
- Composting and organic waste recovery
- Education around reducing consumption and waste
- Circular economy initiatives that create jobs and reduce harm

These are the solutions that give hope to young people—not facilities that burn rubbish and pollute our skies.

In Conclusion

This incinerator is a threat to everything I care about: my health, my future, and the future of Parkes. It does not represent progress—it represents a step backward. I want to live in a town that values its residents, protects the environment, and gives the next generation a reason to stay and thrive.

I urge you to listen to the people of Parkes—especially young people like me—who are deeply opposed to this project. We will be the ones living with the consequences, and we say: No to the incinerator. No to toxic waste. No to sacrificing our future.

Sincerely,

Young Resident of Parkes, NSW