

**Submission  
No 889**

## **INQUIRY INTO PROPOSED ENERGY FROM WASTE FACILITIES**

**Name:** Mrs Carrie Cusack

**Date Received:** 29 October 2025

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29/10/2025

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Carrie Cusack, and I am a lifelong resident of Parkes. I am a proud mother of three children—two currently in high school and one who will be starting school next year. I also own and operate a local hairdressing business and have been part of the industry here in Parkes for over 20 years.

Having grown up on my family's farm, I understand firsthand the vital role our farming community plays in supporting and sustaining this town. Parkes has always been home to me, and I care deeply about my family, my clients, and the wider community that makes this town such a special place.

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed Parkes Energy from Waste (EfW) incinerator project. Like many local families, I am extremely concerned about the potential health and environmental impacts this facility could bring—particularly for our children.

My kids are growing up here, just as I did. They deserve to breathe clean air, drink safe water, and play outdoors without fear of harmful toxins in the air or soil. As a mother, that is my greatest concern. We have seen the devastating effects pollution has had on other towns, and I do not want Parkes to suffer the same fate.

I am also deeply worried about the potential economic and social impacts on local businesses, including my own. Many of my clients are farmers or small business owners. If the incinerator affects their ability to operate, they may be forced to leave town—and that would have a direct impact on my livelihood as well. I am also concerned about how this project could affect local property values, including my own home. Forcing my family to try and sell and relocate.

This issue goes far beyond the present moment—it's about the long-term future of Parkes. What kind of town will we be leaving for our children and future generations if this project proceeds? Will it make it harder to attract new residents, teachers, or healthcare professionals? We already face challenges in these areas, and I fear this proposal would only make matters worse.

I urge you to listen to the voices of the people who call Parkes home. We are not against progress, but we cannot support a project that threatens the health, safety, and sustainability of our community. Once damage of this kind is done, it cannot be undone.

Please protect our families, our land, and the future of Parkes by rejecting the proposed waste incinerator. Our children deserve to grow up in a clean, healthy, and thriving community.

Sincerely,

Carrie Cusack