

Submission
No 894

**INQUIRY INTO PROPOSED ENERGY FROM WASTE
FACILITIES**

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 29 October 2025

Partially
Confidential

Submission: Concerns Regarding the Proposed Parkes Energy Recovery (EfW) Facility

From: _____, Resident of Parkes, NSW

My name is _____, and I am 85 years old. I am a long-term resident of Parkes and a retired employee of **Parkes Shire Council**, where I worked for many years serving this community. I have seen Parkes grow and change over the decades, and I have always been proud to call this town my home.

I have **two children, five grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren**, many of whom live in or regularly visit Parkes. My **wife and grandson are both buried here**, and I could not imagine ever having to leave the town that holds so many memories and connections for me and my family.

I still live an active life I **walk five kilometres three to four times a week and play bowls** at the local club. These activities keep me healthy and connected to my community. The idea of air pollution, odours, or environmental impacts from an incinerator hanging over our town worries me greatly. Clean air and a safe, pleasant environment are essential, especially for older residents like myself who value being outdoors and staying active.

Having worked for Council, I understand how much effort goes into maintaining Parkes as a clean, attractive, and welcoming town. Introducing a large-scale waste-burning facility could undo much of that good work. I have serious concerns about the potential **air quality, odour, noise, and traffic impacts**, as well as the **effect on property values and community morale**.

Parkes has always been a place where families feel safe and where people want to stay. If this facility goes ahead, I fear it will drive people away particularly families with children or retirees like myself who moved here for the peace and lifestyle.

Questions and Concerns

1. How will emissions and odours be monitored and reported to the public?
2. What measures will be taken to protect elderly residents and young children from potential air pollution and health impacts?
3. What happens if the incinerator malfunctions or exceeds its emission limits who will be held accountable?
4. How will this project affect the reputation of Parkes as a clean and friendly country town?
5. Has there been a full independent health and environmental study done by experts with no ties to the project?

Recommendations

- **Pause the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)** until the current inquiry into waste-to-energy facilities is complete.
- **Conduct independent and transparent environmental and health assessments** with full community input.
- **Ensure real-time public monitoring** of emissions and air quality data, so residents can see exactly what is happening.
- **Consider alternative waste management options** that are safer, cleaner, and better suited to a rural community like Parkes.

At my age, I have lived through many changes in this town, but this proposal is one that deeply concerns me. Parkes is a wonderful place a place where families grow, where neighbours look out for one another, and where we still take pride in our environment.

I strongly oppose the construction of the Parkes Energy Recovery Facility. It threatens the health of our residents, the beauty of our surroundings, and the peaceful way of life we have worked so hard to build.

Sincerely,

Resident of Parkes, NSW