

Submission  
No 910

**INQUIRY INTO PROPOSED ENERGY FROM WASTE  
FACILITIES**

**Name:** Name suppressed

**Date Received:** 30 October 2025

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Partially  
Confidential

I am writing this submission on behalf of family and friends who live and farm in the Shire of Parkes, NSW and whose livelihoods and health will be impacted by this facility.

Having lived in and worked with energy generation and heavy industry, we have seen previous failed attempts in trying to dress up energy from waste programs into a palatable exercise that is only there to address an ongoing waste management issue from Sydney. We've seen waste pumped through power stations (that caused damage and health issues), multiple attempts to revive a small power generation facility using waste product that has fallen over time and again, and the transport of waste product as a recycling process that also fell over within a few small years.

In the process, employees in these facilities and surrounding communities were exposed to waste products, the by-products of chemical changes when exposed to the incinerating processes, dust accumulation and smell.

The research presented and included in other submissions highlights these issues and more, but I want to focus on two key issues:

1. Plume modelling – which shows that the plume from this plant will invariably cross over the township of Parkes and surrounding villages given the prevailing winds in the region. I grew up with the BHP site in Newcastle polluting the city, then in the Hunter Valley with dust and blast plumes, sulphur dioxide and nitrous oxide plumes covering the area. No amount of fabric filters, dust accumulators or suppression activities or regulatory guidelines has addressed the pollution issues adequately or with manifest strength to prevent accidents from happening. To site a facility such as this close to and upwind from a major regional centre is, frankly, bizarre, and feeds into our second point, which is:

2. Placing a waste to energy facility in the heart of our foodbowl. Australia is a harsh, dry continent, and the land we have to farm on is marginal at best. The Parkes region is a major source of grain and sheep product that is used both domestically and shipped globally. It sits adjacent to country that is marginal in rain security and soil compatibility, and with our changing climate, the variability of this land is being affected. With the dependence of these communities and our broader trade partners on our farming and food production, it beggars' belief that we would consider siting a potentially devastating contaminant in its midst?

There is so much more that could be written, and I know has been addressed in other submissions and academic documentation. This submission is a simple observation – why would you place an entire community and a key farming production area at risk for a problem that has just been shuffled from its origin? We have better ways of managing our waste than this. We need to do better and better.