

Submission
No 916

**INQUIRY INTO PROPOSED ENERGY FROM WASTE
FACILITIES**

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 30 October 2025

Partially
Confidential

Dear committee members,

I am writing to oppose the construction of waste-to-energy facilities within NSW and Australia.

The world is in the midst of a Climate Crisis, where human-induced activities have accelerated global warming and pushed tipping points to the edge. To decarbonise society, all solutions, including reducing virgin material consumption and reusing resources, must be implemented to slow down catastrophic climate change.

Waste-to-energy represents a lost opportunity for Australia to reduce and reuse resources to slow down the impacts of climate change and resource exploitation. When waste is burned, it will provide no tangible value other than 'energy', which can be substituted by clean, renewable energy. Instead, waste can be recycled into new resources and compost to reduce society's impact on the environment and the climate.

As tipping points are being pushed towards critical thresholds, Australia cannot sustainably continue with its current 'take-make-dispose' economy. To slow down the environmental impact, Australia must transition towards a circular economy where recycling and using sustainable, recyclable packaging are the norm. Waste-to-energy undermines this transition.

Waste-to-energy will also cause irreversible damage to Australia's pristine land and waterways. No price can be put on securing Australia's world-class agriculture and horticulture, and having waste-to-energy facilities will cause irreversible contamination to our land, air and waterways. This will leech into our food and will result in irreversible human health costs.

There are better ways to address NSW's waste crisis. Transitioning to reuse and recycling is a better way to address Sydney's waste crisis and not cause irreversible damage to our land and ecosystems.