

**Submission
No 921**

INQUIRY INTO PROPOSED ENERGY FROM WASTE FACILITIES

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As a resident of the Parkes shire for the past thirty years I have seen this amazing town progress from a quiet country town to a thriving small city. This has been built on the back of agriculture, tourism and mining, all industries that have helped to bring wealth to Australia. To let this area be tarnished by an incinerator that has a fallout potentially of 150 km radius is undoing the hard work put in for so many years.

The effect of this project could potentially be devastating. As a landowner working toward biodynamic certification, I cannot guarantee my produce can meet the stringent standards that certification requires. If the impact on the air, the waterways and other ecosystems is questionable why would we undertake an experiment that puts so much of what Australia is famous for at risk as there is no guarantee this project is safe. Just the impact of extra freight movement on our roads straining an already exhausted road system would on it's own have a big environmental impact as well as create more road hazards.

Parkes and Forbes have traditionally had high cancer rates and this project could exacerbate an already looming problem. Growing research has linked Autism and other similar conditions with toxicity imparted to the child in the womb. If major cities like London and Berlin can have Ultra Low Emission Zones where cars over a certain vintage are forbidden to drive due to not meeting pollution standards how can we condone a project like this?

Australia is a clever country no doubt, surely we can lead the world along with the likes of Japan and South Korea in recycling and create jobs that way. Instead this seems like a cheap way of solving a problem that should never have got to this point.

I strongly oppose the proposal of an incinerator and urge the powers that be to protect the environment by not allowing this project to go ahead.

Sincerely,

Martin Bates