

Submission  
No 923

## INQUIRY INTO PROPOSED ENERGY FROM WASTE FACILITIES

**Name:** Mrs Isabelle Cowle

**Date Received:** 30 October 2025

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My name is Isabelle Cowle and I have lived in the Central West region my whole life. I grew up in the beautiful town of Forbes and have resided in Parkes all my adult life.

I have chosen to live in this area due to the beautiful fresh air, nature and space.

I am sending this submission to oppose the proposed Parkes Energy from Waste incinerator.

I am now fighting for the area that I live in as I am deeply concerned about the impact of this on the community and the environment.

I am perplexed as to why waste from Sydney should become the burden of Parkes and the surrounding areas. If the Energy from Waste is a low impact solution with no health or environmental risks, why is it not being carried out in Sydney? Where is the duty of care for regional areas? This proposal has created deep distress, fear and anxiety in our community. The community is not okay at being treated less important than those in metropolitan areas.

Parkes is a major agricultural region and any threat of contamination in the air, water and soil will deeply impact production of crops and healthy stock.

I am deeply concerned about this contamination and the health impacts from toxic emissions like dioxins and fine particles. I have a son who one day will have children in Parkes, and I would not want them to be living in a toxic environment.

In my career spanning thirty-one years with the RTA and now Service NSW I have seen an increase in the distress caused by this with my regular clients who are primary producers. It is heartbreaking to see that they are afraid of their livelihood being destroyed for themselves and their families. They also do not want their livestock to be threatened with contamination.

Without this industry Parkes will suffer dramatically. If the farming community does not do well, nobody does. The effects will be devastating and there will be no Parkes.

Please reject this proposal to protect the health and future of our region. Alternative waste management solutions that are not a risk to health and the environment need to be explored so that communities are not put at risk. Every living person and animal has a right to live a healthy and happy life.