

Submission
No 956

**INQUIRY INTO PROPOSED ENERGY FROM WASTE
FACILITIES**

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 30 October 2025

Partially
Confidential

To whom it may concern,

I strongly oppose the proposed Parkes Energy Recovery incinerator at the Parkes Special Activation Precinct, NSW. While sustainable waste management is vital, this project poses serious risks to our health, environment, and community that far outweigh any supposed benefits.

Key Reasons for Opposition:

1. Health Risks:

Waste incineration releases toxic particles, heavy metals, and carcinogens that threaten human health, especially for children, the elderly, and vulnerable residents. “Low risk” still means real risk—Parkes deserves clean air, not polluted skies.

2. Environmental and Agricultural Damage:

Emissions and toxic ash will contaminate soil, air, and water, harming biodiversity and jeopardizing Parkes’ farming reputation. Even the perception of contamination could destroy local agricultural markets.

3. Cultural and Heritage Impacts:

The project disrespects Wiradjuri land and sacred sites. Cultural harm of this kind cannot be offset or justified.

4. Regional Injustice:

EfW plants are banned in Sydney but pushed onto regional towns like Parkes. This double standard is unacceptable—our community must not be treated as expendable.

5. Lack of Transparency and Consultation:

Incomplete emissions data, vague transport plans, and poor community engagement undermine public trust. The process has failed to meet basic standards of openness and accountability.

6. Climate and Transport Concerns:

Hauling waste over 300 km from Sydney increases carbon emissions and road hazards, erasing any claimed environmental benefits.

7. Contradiction to Circular Economy Goals:

Long-term waste contracts encourage more burning, not reduction or recycling—locking NSW into outdated, unsustainable practices.

The Parkes community rejects this project outright. If approved, many of us will have no choice but to leave to protect our health and livelihoods. We call on all decision-makers to halt the proposal and invest instead in safe, sustainable, and community-backed waste solutions.

Sincerely,