

Submission
No 960

**INQUIRY INTO PROPOSED ENERGY FROM WASTE
FACILITIES**

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 31 October 2025

Partially
Confidential

Submission: Parkes Waste Recovery Project

Submitted by:

Resident of Parkes, NSW (currently living away for study/work)

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am 19 years old. I grew up in Parkes, where my family continues to live and work. I am currently studying and planning a career in allied health, with the intention of returning home to Parkes to live, work, and eventually raise a family.

However, I am writing to express my deep concern and opposition to the proposed Parkes Waste Recovery Project. The potential health and environmental impacts of this project make me question whether I could ever safely return to my hometown.

The idea of an incinerator operating near Parkes fills me with concern about air quality, food safety, and long-term community health. I am worried about exposure to pollutants and toxins that could affect not only the current residents but also future generations. The risk of contamination to local farms—where food is grown and livestock is raised—creates further uncertainty about the safety of local produce and water supplies.

I am also concerned about the impact on property values and the reputation of Parkes as a healthy, family-friendly town. Young people like me are already facing challenges in finding affordable housing and stable work in regional areas. If this project goes ahead, I fear it will make it even harder for families and professionals to choose Parkes as their home.

I would like to raise the following questions for consideration:

1. Health and Safety: How will the health impacts—especially on children and young families—be independently monitored and publicly reported if this project proceeds?
2. Food Security: What protections will be put in place to ensure local farms, crops, and livestock are not contaminated by emissions or waste by-products?
3. Future Population: What assurances can the community have that projects like this won't drive young people and professionals away from returning or settling in Parkes?
4. Property and Economic Impact: How will declining property values and rental demand be addressed if the project negatively affects community confidence and livability?
5. Transparency and Accountability: What guarantees exist that independent testing and oversight—not controlled by the project proponents—will be implemented and enforced

If the project were safe why the lack of consultation within our community. Why has this been kept a secret.

I love Parkes and want to see it thrive. It's where I grew up and where I hoped to build my future. But this project makes me question whether it will remain a safe, healthy, and welcoming place for young people and families to return to. My family plan to sell up and leave but worry this is cause them financial problems property wise. I will not come home, buy a house and I definitely would not raise a family in Parkes if this were to go ahead.

Sincerely, Resident of Parkes, NSW