

Supplementary
Submission
No 126a

**INQUIRY INTO PROPOSED ENERGY FROM WASTE
FACILITIES**

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 31 October 2025

Partially
Confidential

This is my second submission as I hadn't realised how much you could fit in the box.

I am wondering who is responsible for the extraordinary opposition to the proposed facility in Parkes as much of it seems to be coming from outside the area. Is there something else behind it? It is extraordinarily well organised, and they are spending huge amounts of money to do it.

The objectors have targeted both the council and the previous mayor, the state government and indirectly the federal government. This may be a wild guess but sadly there are a great many conspiracy theorist believers in Australia whose aim is to destroy trust in all governments and indeed to get rid of them. How easy to to attack all three levels of government by frightening people with untruths and misstatements about this project.

The opposition is chiefly focused on emissions from the facility and damage it might do to health, farming land and environment. Why?

In NSW the facility would have to undertake an environmental impact statement before the Department of Planning and the EPA even consider it, and a human health risk assessment, and finally if the EPA approved the statements and any other requirements it has, it would then issue an Environment Protection licence which sets out maximum emission limits for the facility.

Most of the emissions from EFW plants are already found in our normal air. About 20% is steam, 80% components of normal air and less than 0.1% are monitored components.

I understand the actual emission of particulates per hour allowed in New South Wales is 20 mg/m³ while the actual emissions from the waste to energy plant in Dublin, for example, is only 0.57. The allowable maximum emissions of nitrogen dioxide per hour is 250 and for comparison a diesel truck on a highway is 240 while the actual emissions from Dublin are only 156. When it comes to furans and dioxins per hour the maximum emissions allowed for energy from waste are 0.1 ng/m³, a closed wood heater stove gives out 0.13 while the actual emissions, once again from Dublin as an example, are 0.0091 ng/m³.

When you consider how much methane is avoided by decreasing landfill, and I understand landfills worldwide contribute about 10% of global warming, a safe energy to waste facility is surely a no brainer.

Opponents of the facility are pointing out that some of these facilities overseas are being closed down. This is because too many were built and there was not enough waste to support them all. This is why we should have only the two facilities in NSW.

There are many other waste to energy plants throughout the world operating successfully. They are happily accepted by their communities with no complaints like we are hearing here.

People are making assertions when the final plans aren't even drawn up yet. Surely, we should wait till then to assess whether or not the project is fit to go ahead.

In today's Herald I read that the planets vital signs are flashing red 'and that 'feedback loops are accelerating global heating.' At the same time demand for energy is increasing rapidly, so we need urgently to reduce landfills and find as many safe new sources of power as we can.