

Submission
No 973

**INQUIRY INTO PROPOSED ENERGY FROM WASTE
FACILITIES**

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 31 October 2025

Partially
Confidential

Submission to Parliamentary Enquiry

I strongly oppose the proposed Energy for Waste facility being planned near Parkes. I am a third-generation Parkes resident from a farming family; I work in education and my husband is an engineer. We are raising four young children here, and we do not want an incinerator in our community. Incinerators pose real risks to farmland, air quality, and local ecosystems, and I fear the long-term health impacts on my children and our neighbours. The presence of a large combustion facility will undermine the productive landscape my family has relied on for generations and degrade the quality of the air our children breathe.

Beyond local impacts, waste-to-energy incineration perpetuates the problem it claims to solve by creating demand for continuous waste streams rather than prioritising reduction, reuse, and recycling strategies proven to be more sustainable. Life-cycle and environmental assessments show that the benefits of these technologies are highly context-dependent and often fail to deliver net environmental advantages when alternative waste-reduction measures are available. Systematic reviews of health outcomes near incinerators report associations between waste incineration pollutants and adverse effects on respiratory and other health indicators, which is alarming for families with young children. Independent analyses also highlight significant environmental and economic downsides of incineration compared with circular, waste-minimising approaches.

For the sake of my children's health, our farmland, and the region's long-term sustainability, I urge the enquiry to reject the proposed facility and instead invest in genuine waste reduction, recycling infrastructure, and community-led solutions that protect public health and the environment.