

Submission
No 974

**INQUIRY INTO PROPOSED ENERGY FROM WASTE
FACILITIES**

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 31 October 2025

Partially
Confidential

To whom it may concern,

I deeply oppose the proposal of building an energy to waste incinerator plant in Parkes, NSW. I have lived in Parkes for 18 years, since I was born, and I have loved it. I want the same fun-filled, wild childhood that I was able to experience in this rural town for others. I love being able to tell people I'm from Parkes, home of the Dish, and arguably more recognisably, the Elvis festival.

I have always thought about what I wish to do when I am older. My plan was to settle in a small, country town, most likely Parkes. A place where I can raise a young and hopefully large family, letting them experience the joys of childhood in a familiar, nostalgic, safe community. However, since hearing about the idea of an incinerator, those plans have since changed dramatically. I now don't know where I want to go. I don't know how I am going to manage travel to see family with a career, jobs, and the general business of life, hence disrupting the bond I share with my family. I don't know whether I would even consider visiting Parkes because I would be risking not only my safety, but the safety of my future family. I have engrained myself into the community of Parkes, and having the incinerator would mean finding a new town and losing the connection with this town. It means that I would be spending the next 18 years trying to make and maintain the same community that I have found in Parkes.

As for the current time, my boyfriend (from Forbes) is seriously considering buying a house. We plan to get married in the near future and live somewhere close to both of our families. This has put stress on both of us, now wondering where we are going to live. We know that not only will the air be toxic, providing an unsafe environment for both of us (and a future family), but houses will be very hard to sell because of the lack of people wanting to move to a town with an incinerator. Therefore, we haven't made a decision on whether to buy a house in Parkes. This is contributing to the economic unsustainability of Parkes and is hindering the community it is trying to keep - thanks to the incinerator.

Furthermore, the incinerator would create toxic air for the residents of Parkes and beyond. Many argue about air quality and the release of poisonous gases into the environment, this would only make it worse. Because of the toxicity of the incinerator, people will be less inclined to consider Parkes as a place of residence, again, stopping the community from thriving. Additionally, the installation of the incinerator would be cruel towards the youth and elderly members of this (currently) beautiful town. This is because the youth have no choice to move because of laws, parental powers, etc stopping them. You would be taking away their choice to have clean air. It is also manipulation of the elderly as they may want to move out of the hazardous air but feel restricted because of their age and ability, forcing them to slowly get poisoned.

Parkes is a wonderful community. Everyone knows each other and is ready to help one another. This is especially true for the farmers within the community. I have grown up on a farm, my grandparents are farmers, my friends are farmers, my family are farmers. It is the heart of Parkes. You know that when you drive into Parkes, you are going to see fields of golden wheat, shining canola, cows and sheep enjoying healthy feed. This will be desperately affected if the incinerator is built and run. It will make all elements of basic food toxic - grain, meat, dairy.

Would you like to destroy a town? Would you like to destroy the livelihoods of others? Would you like to destroy your own body?

Also, through the incinerator plant, you are enabling city residents to continue with their waste habits. Residents don't have to think twice about how they are directly contributing to the destruction of the environment, and to the lives of others. They won't question where their rubbish is going, or what's happening to it. Isn't this the complete opposite of what we are trying to do? Don't we want people to have to consider their choices when buying single use items? Australia has tried so hard to help the environment; to create cleaner oceans, cleaner landscapes, cleaner homes, cleaner AIR, and this is the total reversal. What are you doing?

Finally, putting an incinerator plant in Parkes will destroy the homey disposition of Parkes' landscape and community. It will completely ruin the aesthetic of the magnificent plains we have. This is a major contributor to the beauty of Parkes, how clean and neat its landscapes are. The incinerator will ruin this.

Please consider my plea. Stop the incinerator.

Sincerely,