

Submission
No 979

**INQUIRY INTO PROPOSED ENERGY FROM WASTE
FACILITIES**

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 31 October 2025

Partially
Confidential

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to voice my strong opposition to the proposed Energy from Waste (EfW) facility in Parkes NSW. I am a local business owner who has employed members of our local community in my franchise for more than twenty years. My business has been enjoying a recent boom in sales as Parkes experiences economic prosperity and an increase in our local population.

However I now have huge concerns about how the local economy, including my business and therefore my livelihood and that of my staff, will be affected by the proposed EfW facility. I have already been made aware of many local residents who have said they intend to move away if the incinerator is approved and begins operation in our town. This will reduce both my customer base and the available workforce, which will obviously have a negative impact on my business. I also rely on tourists for much of my customer base, many of whom will certainly avoid our town as it loses its appeal and reputation, which will further hinder the prosperity of my business.

My son attends and my wife teaches at the Parkes Christian School, which is within 5 kilometres of the proposed site. I worry about the long term impacts on their health, spending 40 weeks a year in such close proximity to this toxic waste incinerator, when proper research hasn't been done on its long term consequences.

My family and I live on a farm which we lease to a neighbouring farmer as additional income, and if the soil and air conditions are badly affected by the incinerator to the point that our local area is no longer suitable for agriculture and food production, I will then lose an additional portion of my income on top of the aforementioned negative effects on my franchise. Not to mention that our local agricultural sector is huge and a great many farmers here in Parkes and the surrounding areas rely on their farmland being productive for the entirety of their livelihood, and not just part of it like I do. These farmers also rely on clean dam water for their livestock and clean rainwater for their own consumption - both of which will be contaminated by the toxic pollution from the EfW facility.

I would like to see more research and investigation being done into alternatives for waste management as I feel, along with much of my community, that the proposed EfW facility is not the best, safest or most efficient option. And additionally, its risks far outweigh any benefits as it is costly, damaging to the environment, destructive to local economies, and a source of great distress to the residents of Parkes and surrounds.

I strongly oppose the construction and operation of this facility and urge you to listen to the voices of myself and other local residents who feel certain that the progression of this project would be devastating for Parkes.