

Submission
No 987

**INQUIRY INTO PROPOSED ENERGY FROM WASTE
FACILITIES**

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 31 October 2025

Partially
Confidential

Submission to Parliament: Opposition to Energy from Waste Facilities in the Parkes District

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed energy from waste (EfW) facilities in the Parkes district. While the intention behind such initiatives is often presented as a solution to waste management and energy production, the potential impacts on our community, environment, and health cannot be overlooked.

1. Environmental Concerns:

Energy from waste facilities can release harmful emissions, including particulate matter, dioxins, and heavy metals, which pose significant risks to air quality. The Parkes district, known for its agricultural productivity and natural beauty, should not be subjected to the pollution and environmental degradation associated with these facilities. The long-term effects on local ecosystems, soil health, and water quality are concerning and could undermine the region's agricultural viability.

2. Public Health Risks:

The health implications for residents living near EfW facilities are serious. Studies have linked exposure to emissions from waste incineration with respiratory problems, cardiovascular diseases, and other health issues. The Parkes community deserves to live in an environment free from such risks, and the introduction of an EfW facility would directly threaten that right.

3. Ineffective Waste Management Strategy:

Investing in energy from waste facilities can divert attention and resources away from more sustainable waste management practices, such as recycling and composting. By focusing on waste minimization and resource recovery, we can create a circular economy that genuinely benefits our community and environment. Supporting EfW facilities may set a precedent that prioritizes energy production over effective waste reduction strategies.

4. Community Sentiment and Consultation:

The lack of adequate consultation with the Parkes community regarding these proposals has been disappointing. Local residents, whose lives will be directly impacted, should have a voice in decisions that affect their health, environment, and future. It is essential that any development aligns with community values and aspirations.

For these reasons, I urge Parliament to reconsider the establishment of energy from waste facilities in the Parkes district. Instead, let us focus on sustainable waste management solutions that protect our environment and public health while fostering community engagement and resilience.

Thank you for considering this important issue.

Sincerely,