

Media release  
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## Controversial Eastern Creek incinerator rejected by NSW Parliamentary Inquiry

Today the NSW Parliament released their final report on the Legislative Council Inquiry – Energy from Waste Technology. The Committee unanimously supported a recommendation that the Eastern Creek incinerator not go ahead.

Recommendation 20 states, ***“That, subject to the current assessment process being conducted by the NSW Government not approve the energy from waste facility proposed by The Next Generation at Eastern Creek.”***  
Portfolio Committee No. 6 - Planning and Environment.

The National Toxics Network congratulates the NSW Parliamentary Committee for rejecting this project.

“This project represents a significant long- term risk to the health and wellbeing of the Eastern Creek community first and foremost. The NSW government agencies were correct to warn against this project right from the beginning.

Approval of the project would have represented a major setback for sustainable waste management in NSW.

Burning waste for energy can never be a sustainable waste management solution for Australia. It simply makes no sense to destroy finite resources in our waste stream that belong to future generations. Australia has ample clean, non - combustion renewable energy options unlike the EU and US where incineration has been relied upon for heating.” States Jo Immig NTN Coordinator

“Waste to energy incineration regardless of the technology used, emits dangerous Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) both to air and into the thousands of tonnes of ash created, dispelling the myth that incineration replaces landfill. Dioxins have no safe level of exposure and despite claims by incinerator proponents, unsafe levels of POP’s are often released during operational bypass events which are unregulated. One bypass event can release up to 100% of the annual air protection standard for the many toxic and hazardous pollutants waste to energy incinerators emit.

These POPs are transboundary, persistent and bioaccumulate in our environment and food chain hence they are subject to the International Stockholm Convention for elimination. Australia is a signatory to this convention.

Australia’s sustainable waste management future will only be achieved through proven and cost effective Zero Waste strategies and a Circular Economy model that supports reducing, recycling and composting our waste ahead of disposal.

This is the direction the EU and US are now taking, and Australia should follow this lead and avoid the mistakes of establishing a waste to energy incineration industry at a time when we face global catastrophic climate threats and resource depletion.

Our children, our environment and our future deserve no less.” states Jane Bremmer Zero Waste Coordinator for the National Toxics Network.

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The report can be found here

<https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/committees/DBAssets/InquiryReport/ReportAcrobat/6146/Final%20-%20Report%2028%20March%202018.pdf>