

I write to register my OBJECTION to the proposed Energy from Waste Facility at Eastern Creek by The Next Generation NSW Pty Ltd, and share my experiences with this project.

I live close (5km) to the site. I first heard of it after the first round of objections. Apparently there was supposed to be community consultation, but nobody I know had heard of it.

When I heard that the largest energy incinerator in the world would be burning unspecified rubbish (i.e anything) in the middle of Sydney, I was stunned that it would even be considered. A moment's searching reveals a plethora of peer-reviewed scientific literature detailing excess risk of cancer morbidity for residents. Like other residents, I had a naive faith in our organisational bodies, reason and common sense.

Since then I've seen the project progress in the face of scathing rejection by the EPA, the WHO, NSW Health, the OEH, a NSW Parliamentary Inquiry, the Department of Planning and Environment and Blacktown and Penrith councils. The Proponent is given chance after chance, prompting questions why.

I've seen the amounts The Proponent contributes to political parties and the free solar panel he offers if approved. I've heard residents tell of being threatened by The Proponent for taking action against the proposal.

I've seen a rubbish incinerator called a "waste to energy facility", Dial a Dump called "The Next Generation NSW" and the clever branding of the "Western Sydney Incinerator". One supposes that the toxic plume will stop when it reaches a more expensive area.

I've heard the proponent answer microplastic and dioxin concerns by saying the temperature was sufficient to burn it all up, as if the law of conservation of matter did not apply. I've seen how the companies of The Proponent and his wife have been caught pumping leachate down stormwater drains and contaminating thousands of cubic meters of soil with asbestos. I've noted his 18 compliance breaches from 2005-2017 and 581 complaints between 2001-2017. Yet the facility intends to be self-monitoring with no accountability to an independent body. I fail to see how this is even considered in a first world nation.

I applaud chief Mary O'Kane's intention to bring greater transparency to development approval, and place the future of my family in your hands.