

Speak Up! Parliamentary Inquiry into Incinerators – Submissions Close 31 October

This month we again draw attention to one of the most important opportunities our community has had to make its voice heard: the NSW Legislative Council Parliamentary Inquiry into incinerator proposals across the state (Ref 1). Submissions are now open, with a deadline of **Thursday, 31 October**. This is a critical moment for everyone in Tarago and the surrounding region to speak up against Veolia's proposed toxic waste-to-energy incinerator at Woodlawn.

For more than twenty years, Veolia has consistently breached its landfill licence conditions here in Tarago (Ref 2). Despite the harm and damage this has caused through regular odour issues, dangerous traffic movements and pollution of groundwater and local waterways (Ref 3 and 4), Veolia is lobbying the NSW Government to advance its proposal to build an additional toxic incinerator for burning Sydney's rubbish in Tarago, and water down existing air emission standards (Ref 5).

This is unacceptable. While Veolia has direct access to decision-makers, our community's only leverage is through public consultation and collective action. That is why it is essential that as many people as possible submit their responses to this inquiry.

The Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council has also resolved to submit its own submission to the Parliamentary Inquiry, opposing the incinerator, reinforcing the strength of local government and community concerns.

Why Your Submission Matters

Every submission helps demonstrate the depth and breadth of opposition to incinerators, particularly in regional areas like ours where people rely on tank water, grow food, and live close to the proposed site. But it's important to note that the Inquiry will only count submissions that are **at least 250 words** and **not identical to another submission**. Form letters or copied text may be disregarded, so please take the time to put your thoughts into your own words.

You don't need to be an expert—speak from your perspective. Perhaps you are concerned about health impacts, air pollution, impacts on farming and beekeeping, risks to water catchments, or the unfair targeting of rural communities. Whether your focus is environmental, health, social, or economic, what matters most is that you clearly and specifically express your concerns. If you would like some ideas, check out the wealth of information contained on our website - www.notaragoincinerator.com.

How to Lodge Your Submission

Submitting is straightforward. Go to the Inquiry's web page and use the **Submissions tab**: [NSW Legislative Council Inquiry – Submissions](#).

For convenience, we also have a link and instructions on the CATTI website. Please don't delay—draft your comments and lodge them well before the **31 October deadline**.

CATTI Update

We are pleased to report that CATTI recently held our 2025 Annual General Meeting. The organisation remains alive and well, with a new, energetic committee committed to keeping this campaign going strong. Our message is simple: we will not stand by while Veolia pushes ahead with an incinerator that threatens our environment, our health, and our way of life.

But we cannot do it alone. We always need more members and more hands willing to pitch in. If you care about your community and want to help—whether by joining the committee, assisting with research, or simply adding your voice—you are welcome to do so. Membership is easy. Visit our website for contact details and sign-up information.

Together, we can stop this incinerator, but only if we all act. Submit your application today and join us in keeping Tarago safe, healthy, and sustainable for future generations.

Keep following us on Facebook and the web:

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100080002033843>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/491803828839813>

www.notaragoincinerator.com

You can also help contribute to our advocacy efforts via our GoFundMe page -

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/no-toxic-waste-incinerator-for-tarago>

And continue reporting every time you smell Veolia's stench in Tarago to the NSW EPA on 131 555 or info@epa.nsw.gov.au.

James Innes

President

Communities Against The Tarago Incinerator (CATTI) Inc

References

- (1) Select Committee on Proposed Energy from Waste Facilities, NSW Legislative Council - <https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/committees/listofcommittees/Pages/committee-details.aspx?pk=337#tab-termsreference>
- (2) Summary Licence No: 11436 Veolia Environmental Services (Australia) Pty Ltd Woodlawn Landfill, NSW EPA, <https://apps.epa.nsw.gov.au/prpoeoapp/Detail.aspx?instid=11436&id=11436&option=licence&searchrange=licence&range=POEO%20licence&prp=no&status=Issued>
- (3) NSW EPA Prevention Notice 3503885, 24 October 2022 – Veolia pumping of leachate between dams in a manner where it could cause pollution of groundwater - <https://apps.epa.nsw.gov.au/prpoeoapp/Detail.aspx?instid=11436&id=3503885&option=notice&range=POEO%20licence¬icetype=>
- (4) NSW EPA Media Release 22 April 2025 *Surface and Ground Water Monitoring at Woodlawn Eco Precinct* <https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/news/epamedia/250422-epa-requires-surface-and-groundwater-monitoring-at-woodlawn-eco-precinct>
- (5) Veolia letter to Acting Executive Director Strategy and Policy, NSW EPA 13 March 2025 “RE: NSW Government (EPA) Waste Infrastructure Plan”, released to local community member under NSW Government freedom of information legislation.