

**From:** [Gerlese Akerlind](#)  
**To:** [DPE PS Industry Assessments Mailbox](#)  
**Subject:** SSD-21184278  
**Date:** Sunday, 4 December 2022 10:24:03 PM

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## **Objection to Tarago Incinerator proposal (Woodlawn ARC: SSD-21184278)**

My name is Gerlese Sachse-Akerlind. I have a small cattle farming property on Taylors Ck Rd, Tarago and am an emeritus professor at the ANU. I have made no political donations in the last two years.

I would like to record my objection to the proposal that a toxic waste incinerator be built at Veolia in Tarago, on the following grounds:

- In a systematic review of research published in the Australian and New Zealand Journal of Public Health in 2020, academics from the ANU identified the potential for waste incineration to have significant health impacts through airborne pollutants. They concluded that there is insufficient evidence that the pollution control technologies used by incinerators are capable of safely managing emissions
- Even within an assumption of 'safe operating conditions', it is inevitable that the Veolia incinerator will exceed safety standards at times, because the assumption applies only to 'standard operating conditions'. Non-standard emissions will occur during start-up, shut-down and other 'non-standard' operating conditions.
- Veolia has already demonstrated its inability to safely manage toxic outputs in its current operations of the existing Woodlawn facility, through its pollution of local groundwaters (recognised by the EPA) during October this year. The operation of a toxic waste incinerator should NOT be given to an entity that already has a record of exceeding safety standards in its operations.
- The location of the incinerator in a rural area means that potential pollution applies not just to local residents but also to livestock, through ingestion of pollutants, with the associated potential for pollutants to enter the food chain.
- My neighbours and I have already been negatively impacted by a NSW state significant development through the building of surrounding wind farms and associated noise and visual pollution. Further negative impact from an additional state significant development places an unfair burden on the local community and is causing a significant amount of anxiety and distress.

I acknowledge and accept the Department of Planning and Environment's disclaimer and declaration.

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