



JO CLAY MLA



(02) 6205 0131 | clay@parliament.act.gov.au | Member for Ginninderra

NSW Major Projects

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I write to lodge an objection to Veolia's proposed incinerator for Tarago. I live in the ACT and am the local member for Ginninderra. I lodge this objection personally and on behalf of the ACT Greens. Please do not allow this facility to be built in our region.

The ACT Greens have long opposed thermal incineration. It is too risky for health and the environment. Incinerators have a long history of polluting our air and water. Testing is always a concern. Burning waste is also a waste of resources. It is also an unnecessary way to generate electricity. The ACT is powered by 100% renewable electricity, primarily sourced from solar and wind. We do not need incineration.

The ACT Government banned incinerators in the ACT in 2020. The ACT Government has committed to introduce the human right to a healthy environment. We would not allow this facility within our borders. We do not want to see one just across our border.

I am concerned for the residents of Tarago and Canberra and for future generations. This facility might impact on the clean air and water in our region. It might also impact on our regional food growers, winemakers and other primary producers.

I sponsored a community petition opposing this proposal. 919 Canberra residents signed it. It is attached to this letter. Residents in Tarago are even more concerned. *Communities Against the Tarago Incinerator* demonstrate predicted air pollution on their website using modelling developed by the US EPA. This predicts pollution from the incinerator could reach Canberra, Queanbeyan, Yass and the whole region.

I released the ACT Greens' Vision for a Circular Economy in August 2022. The ACT Government is now consulting on a Circular Economy. A genuine Circular Economy means we should think about what we need and come up with a sustainable way of meeting those needs. Incineration is not part of that story. Can I discuss this with you as a better alternative to incineration?

Jo Clay
Member for Ginninderra & ACT Greens spokesperson for the Circular Economy