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MEDIA RELEASE
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Western Sydney mega ‘waste-to-energy’ incinerator rejected

The National Toxics Network today congratulates the NSW Independent Planning Commission (IPC) for its decision to reject The Next Generation mega ‘waste-to-energy’ incinerator development proposal for Eastern Creek in western Sydney.

In its decision the IPC finds that the project is not in the public interest for the following reasons:

- The projects impact on air quality.
- The projects impact on human health.
- The suitability of the site.
- The relationship between air quality impacts and water quality impacts.
- The project is not consistent with objectives of the EP&A Act.

“The IPC conducted a thorough consideration of the proposal and we’re relieved by their decision,” says Jo Immig, Coordinator of the National Toxics Network.

“We also congratulate the Western Sydney community who vigorously opposed this dirty development. The IPC decision vindicates their concerns,” she said.

“A community licence to operate any high risk industry should be a mandatory requirement in any democratic society. We would have liked to see the IPC recognise the strong views of the host community, demonstrated by 10,000 signatures on a petition as well as local government rejection of the proposal,” she said.

“Waste to energy incineration is inconsistent with sustainable zero waste management models and the goal of a circular economy, which is the direction responsible governments around the world are heading in, said Jane Bremmer, Coordinator of NTN’s Zero Waste Oz.

“Incineration will never provide sustainable solutions to the waste crisis and the idea that it provides ‘renewable energy’ is totally bogus,” she said.

“With the Federal Government’s intention to support the misapplication of clean energy subsidies to the incineration industry, which emits more greenhouse gases and toxic air pollutants per unit of energy than the coal, oil and energy sector, the NSW government and community have sent a clear message that Australia can do better. Now is the time to implement sustainable Zero Waste City model policy,” Ms Bremmer concluded.

The Independent Planning Commissions decision can be found here:
<http://ipcn.nsw.gov.au/projects/2018/04/eastern-creek-energy-from-waste-facility-ssd-6236>

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