

Correspondence sent to the Minister for the Environment from members of the public regarding waste incinerator in Te Awamutu application

Received 12 February 2024:

- Please use your power to call in the Te Awamutu incinerator application. I do not support burning rubbish, tyres and plastics because of the huge climate impacts and toxic emissions,
I support a moratorium on all waste-to-energy incineration because burning mixed solid waste will not help us reduce waste or emissions. Incineration is a false solution that would take us in the wrong direction because it's just another disposal method like landfill where out of sight out of mind hides the damage.
I support efforts to ensure the import and production of all goods from packaging to end of life is handled in a sustainable manner.*
- Please 'call-in' the resource consent application for this project - it is wrong on so many fronts I am amazed that it has even been considered as an option for rubbish disposal. The research shows that emissions from similar plants are not only toxic but also produce a lot of carbon dioxide- thus contributing to climate change.
We need to change this urgently- our planet is dying.*
- I am asking you to 'Call in the Resource Consent Application' re the building of an incineration plant at Te Awamutu.
Of particular importance is to have no burning of rubber, tyres, plastic in other words non bio-genic waste as this pollutes the air which we know not only affects humans, but all that relies on clean air pretty much everything.
I am sure you have been made aware of any necessary data and trust you will make a favourable decision.*
- I want you to use your power to call in the Te Awamutu incinerator application. I do not support burning rubbish, tyres and plastics because of the huge climate impacts and toxic emissions. I support a moratorium on all waste-to-energy incineration because burning mixed solid waste will not help us reduce waste or emissions. Incineration is a false solution that would take us in the wrong direction because it's just another disposal method like landfill.*
- I'm writing to ask you to accept the referral of this proposal to the Environment Ministry for assessment against its contribution to New Zealand's carbon dioxide emissions, and so to global heating of the earth. Burning waste is no longer a feasible means of waste management, since the atmosphere cannot absorb more greenhouse gases without exacerbating already disastrous heating.*
- Please support the Calling In of this proposal. Time to walk the talk on emissions and pollution.*
- Last week, the Waipā District Council voted to request that the Minister 'call-in' the resource consent application to build a massive incinerator in Te Awamutu. This means that the matter would go directly to the Environment Court instead of having a local-level resource consent hearing first.*

This is a great step because it means that the climate impacts can be taken into account. If it is not called-in, the incinerator gets a free pass on its massive climate impacts, estimated to be worse than burning coal. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change [reports that](#) each tonne of waste burnt produces up to 1.2 tonnes of carbon dioxide.

I want you to use your power to call in the Te Awamutu incinerator application

- I do not support burning rubbish, tyres and plastics because of the huge climate impacts and toxic emissions on health and our future wellbeing*
- I support a moratorium on all waste-to-energy incineration because burning mixed solid waste will not help us reduce waste or emissions. Incineration is a false solution that would take us in the wrong direction because it's just another disposal method like landfill.*

- I request that you ensure the resource consent application for the Te Awamutu incinerator is called in and gets heard in the Environment Court. It is a huge project and needs full consideration.*

I personally believe burning rubbish encourages more rubbish, the opposite of what we Kiwis need to do for future generations.

- I have heard that Waipa District council recently voted to have you 'call-in' the resource consent application for a proposed Incinerator in Te Awamutu. I write to urge you to do so, as these incinerators are exactly the wrong direction to take for a government and society looking to the future. I should not need to mention the very real fact of climate change, and the effects that the burning of waste and toxic emissions will have. Having spent time recently opposing a similar plant in Feilding, I think it's high time for the Government to call a moratorium on all waste to energy incineration. Challenging these plants takes an awful lot of time, energy, money and work to oppose, especially for us lay people who also have jobs. Please let us civic minded types get back to putting our energy into positive things within our communities, rather than having to mount challenges against Really Bad Ideas such as incinerators burning tyres, plastics and rubbish. We gave that type of behaviour up on the farm a couple of decades ago though I remember it from my childhood. Why is it ok now? Aagin, Please 'Call-in' this application*

- Last week the Waipa District Council voted to request that you 'Call In' the resource consent application to build a massive incinerator in Te Awamutu. I fully support this decision and request that you fully support this decision as well and decide that the matter should go directly to the Environment Court instead of a local-level resource consent hearing.*

I live and work in Te Awamutu and fully oppose the building of this incinerator that will be close to residential homes, schools and the Fonterra dairy factory. This incinerator will pollute our air and will also create a fire risk. Both Fonterra and the NZ Fire Service are against the incinerator.

The inter-governmental panel on Climate Change reports that each tonne of waste burnt produces 1.2 tonnes of carbon dioxide and is worse than burning coal. [5 3 Waste Incineration.pdf \(iges.or.jp\)](#)

Overseas there are health issues with people living close to these incinerators as well as fire risks. [Why Oppose Incineration – United Kingdom Without Incineration Network \(ukwin.org.uk\)](http://ukwin.org.uk)

Modern incinerators pollute the air with dioxins and furans and the additional heavy vehicle traffic will add to air pollution and noise pollution in our small town. [Why is waste to energy incineration a bad idea for Aotearoa? - Greenpeace Aotearoa](#)

There is major community support not to proceed with this incinerator “Don’t Burn Waipa”. As a Te Awamutu resident, I do not support burning rubbish, tyres and plastics because of the huge climate impacts and toxic emissions. I support a moratorium on all waste-to-energy incineration because the burning of mixed solid waste will not help us reduce waste or emissions. Incineration is a false solution that would take us in the wrong direction because it is just another disposal method like landfill.

We would like you to use your power to call in the Te Awamutu incinerator application and ask that you not support burning rubbish, tyres and plastics because of the huge climate impacts and toxic emissions. We ask for a moratorium on all waste-to-energy incineration because burning mixed solid waste will not help us reduce waste or emissions. Incineration is a false solution that would take us in the wrong direction because it’s just another disposal method like landfill. Regeneration not incineration is a better solution. [Waste to Energy Incineration | Zero Waste Network New Zealand](#)

Thank you for your time and I hope that you consider the residents and children of Te Awamutu when you make your decision.

- I am asking that you don’t support the Te Awamutu Incinerator Application.

Please Penny address the policy on pollution levels in our only planet earth .
Use your power to influence the Te Awamutu incinerator application.

No life will be unaffected by toxic emissions.

If we tolerate this then our children will be next .

I personally and ActionStation, don't support rubbish, tyres , plastic microparticles being burnt and making it uncomfortable, unbreathable, if we don't support and honor our reputation as a clean green country, we lose tourism (money) .

Plus we are dedicated to the Treatee and our ancestors .

I support moratorium on waste energy.

I personally in the past know what struggling to breath feels like , it’s horrible love .
Please do your very best.

- Please do use your authority to 'call in' this application.

It's against all reason, in view of Climate Change, to be burning tyres and plastics and other rubbish. You know the science! We HAVE TO find other ways of essential disposal.

- I am writing in support of Waipā District Council's request for the resource consent for a waste incinerator in Te Awamutu to be called in.

- *I do not support the burning of rubbish, tyres and plastics because of the huge climate impacts and toxic emissions that cannot be mitigated*
- *I support a moratorium on all waste-to-energy incineration because burning mixed solid waste will not help us reduce waste or emissions. Incineration is a false solution that would take us in the wrong direction because it's just another disposal method like landfill.*

In order for incineration to be successful it will require more waste to fuel it, in other words the waste has to keep being created and if this goes ahead it will mean all the waste from nearby towns is trucked in and dumped on Te Awamutu's doorstep. I have family living in Te Awamutu and I don't want this for them.

Please use your decision-making powers to call in the consent application.

- *I am emailing to say that I would like you to use your power to call in the Te Awamutu incinerator application.*

As a resident of Te Awamutu, I do not support burning rubbish, tyres and plastics because of the huge climate impacts and toxic emissions.

I support a moratorium on all waste-to-energy incineration because burning mixed solid waste will not help us reduce waste or emissions. Incineration is a false solution that would take us in the wrong direction because it's just another disposal method like landfill, but will affect the air we breathe. With a family including young kids who go to school in close proximity to where the incinerator is proposed to be built, this causes me great concern.

- *I'm writing about my serious concern over the proposal for an incinerator in Te Awamutu.*

As incineration of waste poses so many threats to both the people & the environment of Aotearoa, it's imperative that you use your power as a minister to 'call-it-in'. That way it goes directly to the Environment Court instead of having a local-level resource consent hearing first.

Given the enormous challenges we face with climate change, it is absolutely crucial that we look closely at the climate impacts of such a proposal. Incineration is estimated to be worse than burning coal, releasing 1.2 tonnes of carbon dioxide for each tonne of waste burnt. It is a false 'solution' that will have devastating consequences for our children's children and our precious and fragile environment.

And then there's the matter of releasing micro plastics into the environment...

The people & environment of Aotearoa NZ deserve the best and most thorough investigation into this application hence the necessity to call-it-in & send it straight to the Environment Court.

Please use your power for good.

Received 31 January 2024:

- *I am writing to you as a rate payer and a community member of Waipa.*

This proposal for the incinerator would do the most damage to our community. The youngest and most venerable community members of Waipa, would be affected the most, the health implications it would cause, burning rubbish right next to the The Barnyard Early Childhood Education Centre and Te Awamutu College. How would you feel if your children or grandchildren attended the center, knowing they're being exposed to air particulates that cause cancer?

The health implications it would have on our community is absolutely appalling. You would be letting members of our community to be exposed to unnecessarily cancer causing pollutants in the air and our waterways. How good is our community, if we all have extreme health issues? How would we contribute in a positive way? Who would want to live here?

I am only twenty five years old, and recently have purchased my first home only a short drive away from the proposed burn station. I would not feel safe and okay, raising my children near this burn station. Young, educated, skilled citizens would never choose willing to live, nor raise a family, in the vicinity of an incinerator. I know, I would not. Unfortunately, this proposal occurred after we bought our property.

This incinerator would be burning 24/7. This problem would reach further than Waipa, this affects New Zealand, this is why it has reached a national level. We are the ratepayers, we are the home owners, we are the community, your voice during this time is absolutely critical to the future of Waipa. We need your humanity as our leader of this community, to stop this proposal.

Would you be proud to say you helped implement this into our community and our country? This would have such a detrimental effect on our health, economy, and country.