

Incinerators create air pollution



We'll breath acid gases, toxic heavy metals (mercury, lead, cadmium) and persistent organic pollutants (dioxins, furans & PFAS).^{1,2}

- 1** We already have an air pollution crisis - incinerators will add to it. Air pollution is already above safe levels in 12 of 13 regions of Aotearoa NZ.³
- 2** Every year, air pollution in New Zealand results in 3300+ premature deaths plus 13,000+ hospitalisations for cardiovascular and respiratory disease.⁴
- 3** Incinerators will pump out dangerous air pollution 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, for decades.
- 4** Toxic smoke particulates (PM10, PM2.5 and ultrafine particles less than 0.1 micrometre) will penetrate our lungs, and move into our bloodstream and body organs including our brains.^{1,2}
- 5** Incinerator air pollutants can cause illness and death from respiratory problems (asthma, lung disease, breathing difficulties), strokes, cancer, heart disease, heart attack, Alzheimers and more.^{1,2}
- 6** Fine particles in the air (measured as PM2.5) are so small that they can travel into the respiratory tract, reaching deep into the lungs. In Aotearoa NZ, PM2.5 pollutant is almost always found above safe limits prescribed by the World Health Organisation in 2021.³
- 7** The downwind impacts are the greatest. High levels of dioxins were found in the eggs of backyard chickens sampled within a 3 km radius of a waste incinerator in Holland.

Even the most technologically advanced incinerators release thousands of pollutants that contaminate our air, soil and water

1] Facts about "waste-to-energy" incinerators, GAIA (Global Alliance for Incinerator Alternatives), 2018. <https://www.no-burn.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/GAIA-Facts-about-WTE-incinerators-Jan2018-1-1.pdf>

2] Particle Pollution Exposure, United States Environmental Protection Agency, www.epa.gov/pmcourse/particle-pollution-exposure

3] Newsroom. 2024. <https://newsroom.co.nz/2024/06/06/air-pollution-above-safe-levels-in-12-of-13-regions/>

4] Health effects of air pollution. <https://www.ehinz.ac.nz/indicators/air-quality/health-effects-of-air-pollution>

Let's keep Aotearoa incinerator free

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**REGENERATION
NOT INCINERATION**