

[Your Full Name]
[Your Address]
[Date]

Mr Jon Krause MP

Member for Scenic Rim
PO Box 656, Beaudesert QLD 4285

RE: The Proposed Bromelton Energy and Resource Centre (BERC) - Roads, Economy, and Health

Dear Mr Krause,

I am writing to you as a constituent of the Scenic Rim electorate regarding the proposed Bromelton Energy and Resource Centre (BERC), a waste-to-energy incinerator proposed by Cleanaway for the Bromelton State Development Area.

I am asking you, as our elected representative in the Queensland Parliament, to stand up for the people who placed their trust in you and oppose this proposal publicly, vigorously, and on the record.

You have built your political career on three commitments that matter deeply to this community: protecting rural land from inappropriate state-facilitated development, fighting for the infrastructure our roads need, and ensuring regional communities are not short-changed on health. The BERC proposal cuts across all three.

This Is Exactly the State-Facilitated Development You Have Opposed

You have been consistent and principled in opposing state-facilitated development that overrides local planning and imposes inappropriate land uses on rural communities. The BERC proposal is a textbook case of that pattern.

Bromelton sits within a State Development Area a mechanism that removes normal planning controls and community checks from the equation. Scenic Rim Regional Council, whose ratepayers and residents would bear the consequences of this facility, has no planning authority over what happens in that precinct. The Queensland Coordinator-General holds the power. The community holds none.

This proposal would see metropolitan and industrial waste generated by South East Queensland's urban centres transported into a rural and regional food-producing corridor to be burned, with the emissions, the toxic ash, and the long-term consequences borne by the Scenic Rim community. The costs are local. The waste is not.

You have said that farming areas must be protected because they are essential parts of the Queensland economy and contribute to feeding the nation. We are asking you to act on that principle now, when it is being directly tested.

The Roads Cannot Bear This

You have fought hard for the Mount Lindesay Highway and the Beaudesert–Boonah Road. You know better than most what these roads mean to this community as economic arteries, as daily commuter routes, as the connection between farming families and their markets, and as the lifeline between rural residents and hospital services.

The BERC proposal would introduce approximately 472 additional heavy vehicle movements per day along the Mount Lindesay Highway corridor. These are not light vehicles. They are waste transport trucks, heavy freight, and industrial supply chain traffic, added to a highway that your constituents already identify as underfunded and over-capacity.

- Road safety: 472 additional heavy vehicle movements daily on a highway already known for serious incidents is a genuine risk to the lives of Scenic Rim residents.
- Infrastructure cost: The wear and damage to road surfaces from this volume of heavy vehicles will impose costs on Queensland taxpayers, costs that will fall disproportionately on a regional community that did not generate the waste being transported through it.
- Amenity and liveability: The communities along the Mount Lindesay corridor like families, farmers, school buses, emergency vehicles would carry the daily burden of this industrial traffic indefinitely.

You have spent years lobbying for investment in these roads. It would be a significant blow to those efforts if the same roads were then degraded by industrial traffic serving a facility that was never wanted here in the first place.

The Economic Case Against BERC Is Overwhelming

The Scenic Rim has built an economy grounded in agricultural production and nature-based tourism. Farmers' markets, farm gate experiences, food tourism, craft producers, and agri-tourism operators have invested their livelihoods in a brand built on clean food, clean air, and a natural landscape worth visiting. That brand is not abstract it is the income of your constituents.

A waste incinerator is incompatible with that identity. Even leaving aside the health and environmental evidence, consider the reputational economics:

- Agri-tourism visitors come to the Scenic Rim because of what it is. Proximity to a toxic waste facility changes what it is.
- Food provenance is a market asset. 'Grown in the Scenic Rim' carries value because of what the Scenic Rim represents. That value is not recoverable once the region is associated with waste incineration.
- Property values across the region will face downward pressure, affecting every landowner and ratepayer in the electorate.
- The region is being asked to absorb a metropolitan waste problem while receiving none of the metropolitan economic benefits. This is not a trade. It is an imposition.

You have said that population growth must not be allowed to let the city consume the country. The BERC proposal is precisely that dynamic in action - an urban waste problem being outsourced to a rural and regional food-producing space.

The Health Evidence Is Not in Dispute

You have fought to restore and improve health services at Beaudesert and Boonah Hospitals. You understand that rural communities face significant disadvantage in accessing health care, and that the burden of chronic illness falls hardest on communities with the least capacity to absorb it.

Independent biomonitoring research conducted around the modern, regulated Ivry-Paris XIII waste incinerator in Paris - conducted by the ToxicoWatch Foundation

with support from Zero Waste Europe — has found the following in the years since that facility began operating:

- 83% of backyard chicken egg samples near the incinerator exceeded EU food safety limits for dioxins. France's national public health authority confirmed the findings and declared local eggs unsafe to eat.
- A schoolyard playground near the facility was found to contain dioxin contamination exceeding EU legal thresholds.
- Primary school classroom air filters were found to contain PFAS (forever chemicals), dioxins, PCBs, and PAHs. PFAS levels were exponentially above EU safety limits.
- PFAS - released by waste incineration - are directly linked in peer-reviewed research to birth defects, developmental delays in children, reduced immune function, hormone disruption, and multiple cancers. They do not break down. They accumulate in soil, water, and the human body across generations.

A community with already-stretched health infrastructure, long distances to specialist care, and limited capacity for complex chronic illness is uniquely exposed to the long-term health burden that the international evidence associates with proximity to waste incineration. The people who would carry that burden are your constituents.

What We Are Asking You to Do

The people of the Scenic Rim elected you to represent their interests in the Queensland Parliament. This is one of those moments when that representation matters most. We are asking you to:

- Publicly and formally oppose the BEREC proposal and call on the Queensland Government and the Coordinator-General to reject it.
- Use your platform in Parliament to place the community's concerns on the record with the health evidence, the road impacts, the economic threat to agri-tourism, and the fundamental injustice of outsourcing a metropolitan waste problem to a rural and regional food-producing region.
- Engage directly with the community organisations and residents who have been raising these concerns, and ensure their evidence reaches the relevant state ministers.
- Write formally to the Minister for Environment and the Coordinator-General requesting that the Bromelton State Development Area mechanism not be used to override the legitimate planning interests of the Scenic Rim community on this matter.
- Request an independent assessment of the cumulative road impact on the Mount Lindesay Highway corridor before any further approvals are considered.

You were born into a farming family. You know what it means to build something from the land, to stake your livelihood and your children's future on the quality of the soil and the water and the air around you. The Scenic Rim is full of people living that same reality.

This proposal threatens the roads you have fought to improve, the economy you have championed, and the health of the community you were elected to serve. It is state-facilitated development of exactly the kind you have said you oppose. It outsources an urban problem to a rural and regional community that did not create it and has not consented to carry it.

We are not asking you to do something that conflicts with your values. We are asking you to live by them.

Yours sincerely,
[Your Name]

Key sources referenced in this letter:

ToxicoWatch Foundation / Zero Waste Europe: 'The True Toxic Toll' biomonitoring series, Paris (Ivry-sur-Seine), 2021–2025. zerowasteurope.eu

ToxicoWatch Foundation: 'PFAS, Dioxins and PAH in Primary School Air Filters, Ivry-sur-Seine', 2025. zerowasteurope.eu

Trasande et al., 'Forever chemicals: the persistent effects of PFAS on human health', *eBioMedicine / The Lancet*, 2023.

Capitao et al., 'Waste incineration and cancer mortality', *European Journal of Public Health*, 2023.