

From: nina zimmerman <web@greens.org.au>
Sent: Friday, 3 May 2019 10:43 AM
To: recyclinginquiry
Subject: Dr

RE: INQUIRY INTO RECYCLING AND WASTE MANAGEMENT

Dear Madam/Sir

I welcome the opportunity to make a submission to this inquiry because I have long been aware of the urgent need to reduce our impact as a society on our environment. I and so many in the community have been doing our best to reduce, reuse, recycle.

I was horrified to learn that our waste has been shipped off shore to be dumped on another country rather than us taking responsibility for it ourselves and absolutely heart-broken to see Victoria descend into a waste crisis, with recycling being stockpiled or sent to landfill.

We have an opportunity to create local jobs and industry by developing Victoria's recycling and waste management systems. This has been done on a small scale in spots in Australia but how exciting it would be if it could be done with the backing of the Victorian government on a much larger scale.

I have been impacted by this waste management crisis, because items I have put aside for recycling have not been recycled. Reshape and grow our recycling industry so the materials we collect here can be remade and resold right here in Victoria.

We need to look at our use of disposable plastics, most of which doesn't get recycled and ends up as landfill in our waterways and oceans. I know that there are so many people who are ready to do what it takes to turn this situation around and are crying out for the leadership to help this happen.

Why do we not have 10c refunds on bottles and cans in this state? We know that it is effective from the example set by our compatriots over the border. Large-scale composting to divert food waste from landfill is a no-brainer.

-- nina zimmerman