

From: [Inquiry into Recycling and Waste Management](#)
To: [recyclinginquiry](#)
Subject: New Submission to Inquiry into Recycling and Waste Management
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Inquiry Name: Inquiry into Recycling and Waste Management

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SUBMISSION CONTENT:

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At present, no Council and no State Government Department or quango seems to have an appetite to have household food waste collected and turned into electricity in an anaerobic digester. The present situation is that millions of tonnes of rotting food is thrown into landfill, or a token gesture is made towards composting which emits greenhouse gases anyway.

Here, in 150 words, is what is still being achieved at the Council I represented in the UK after 10 years of its successful Household Food Waste To Energy program:

- £445,000pa saving from reducing general waste collection to once a fortnight. (Prior to its introduction, 30% of residual waste was food.)

There are 78,400 households in Flintshire.

- Food waste is collected separately by:

7 food waste trucks

1600 households per vehicle per day

7 days per week

Each truck staffed by 1 driver and 2 loaders.

- Each Terberg multi-use truck cost £140,000.

- A one-off total of £300,000 was spent on small kitchen caddies and large kerbside caddies from Straights Ltd in Hull.

- £100,000pa for free compostable bags.

- 22,500 tonnes of food waste is collected each year, generating a continuous output of 1000kW of renewable electricity for the national grid, powering 2000 homes. Feed-in tariffs have been between 4p and 8p per kWh, bringing in £525,000pa.

- Any waste that finally remains in the digester is turned into fertiliser.

Yarra Valley Water already has an anaerobic digester in Whittlesea which receives commercial food waste.

A report on the environmental benefits of greenhouse gas emissions, landfill use reduction and meeting statutory targets is at

http://www.parliament.uk/documents/post/postpn387_anaerobic-digestion.pdf

(I have no financial interest in this; I just have experience in the area and I cry every time I put a chicken bone, banana skin or egg shell in the bin.)

Every metropolitan Council in Australia should be doing this. I would love the State

Government to lead and fund this win-win-win proposition for every metropolitan Council in Victoria.

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File1:

File2:

File3: