

From: [Inquiry into Recycling and Waste Management](#)
To: [recyclinginquiry](#)
Subject: New Submission to Inquiry into Recycling and Waste Management
Date: Wednesday, 29 May 2019 5:19:23 PM

Inquiry Name: Inquiry into Recycling and Waste Management

Ms Victoria M
[REDACTED]

SUBMISSION CONTENT:

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Firstly, thank you for opening this waste inquiry, I'm so pleased that Victorians are given a chance to open dialogue about our concerns.

I was saddened to see what our waste and recycling came to this year - incineration of recycling. I am very concerned that for those in the community who don't know enough about the worth of reuse and recycling will be deterred even further after seething that their efforts to recycle gone wrong.

I would love to see a bottle and container deposit return scheme begin here in Victoria. As you well know, South Australia has been successfully doing it for the past 40 years and there are examples of such schemes working wonderfully worldwide. Germany being a prime example - where what would otherwise be waste is valued and even sought after by people to generate income. It would be fantastic to use the Sustainability Fund to support businesses to revolutionise reusable packaging eg. refillable bottles – milks (dairy and plant-based), soft drink etc. We've done it in the past and we can do it again. I appreciate that there will be a cost to implement this, but this absolutely should not stop us utilising materials that have already been made before creating new.

Incinerating our waste and recycling is absolutely not the answer or in any way acceptable - it is the lazy way out that creates further problems for the environment and human health. Victoria needs to start systems avoid the level of waste we are generating to start off with, such as education schemes for the general public. The Sustainability fund should be used to develop and deliver effective education campaigns focusing on reduction of waste, repurposing before throwing away, sharing economies, cradle to cradle design repair and correct ways to recycle. The general public do not fully understand the importance of recycling. The carbon footprint created with burning rubbish does not make it a sustainable energy source. It is also not a sustainable waste management solution

I am extremely against the funding of Combustion or Thermal Waste to Energy technologies. Simply burning our rubbish is not a solution and that the government should not support it in any way. It is an immediate, thoughtless immediate "fix".

We must reduce waste via reuse and repair. Use the Sustainability fund to support repair initiatives including training programs for skill development and subsidising repairs to reduce landfill. Programs such as repair cafes are extremely effective in this by building community, knowledge, skill-sharing and most importantly reducing waste.

Encourage or subsidise the use of local recycled material – importing recycled resin (because it's cheaper) might make a product sound good because it has recycled material, but it doesn't help our local recycling crisis.

Please support councils, hospitality, businesses, schools and community groups to compost and better manage food waste. Mandate that all business, schools, organisations etc. are required to have recycling service. I can't understand how many of these huge businesses and institutions don't,

The sustainability fund should also support education and implementation of recycling infrastructure in these organisations.

Simply put, by using the fund to educate, campaign, and implement reuse systems the government will be met with less waste to deal with and spend money on. It makes sense in every way for these systems to be set in place sooner than later and it will benefit all.

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File1:

File2:

File3: