

To Whom it may Concern;

I am writing to share with you my thoughts regarding our current lack of regard of the environment and the problem of safe and effective waste management for the future. There has been much debate about the many ways of dealing with waste, and I would like to make some suggestions about how to deal with these issues.

1. There are new technologies that can process all plastics into 80% diesel fuel and 20% gas which is used to run the system. This system is being used successfully in Canada and will process any sort of plastic. A company in Salt Lake City is turning plastic into diesel fuel in a simple process akin to a liquor still. Boise has a contract to work with the company called Renewlogy and will hopefully recycle more plastic than ever before. See: <https://www.smh.com.au/business/small-business/australian-entrepreneur-priyanka-bakaya-aims-for-new-recycling-facility-in-australia-by-2019-20171204-gzynnl.html>

and also: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IR0Hv5CFY9Q>

This type of processing is urgently needed all over the world, and should be given number one priority. It should be rated as more important than military expenditure on submarines, and other such distractions, costing billions of dollars, but not resolving the most critical environmental issues. If we do not deal with plastics and pollution, there will not be sea fit for submarines to safely operate or for animal or human habitation. This is an issue of greatest importance.

The option of incinerating rubbish as a way of disposing of garbage is totally untenable and unacceptable when compared to the Boise conversion of waste plastic to diesel option as described above.

The conversion of plastic into fuel would create jobs and is sustainable as it runs on its own by products and also produces a source of fuel. I urge you to consider this technology and present it as a very important solution (possibly the best option yet) for consideration.

2. The useful disposal of plastic waste can also be achieved by conversion into roads, which have been proven to be more durable and heat resilient than bitumen roads. See: <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-05-29/melbourne-company-rubbish-recycling-plastic-bag-road/9812450>
Also: <https://www.sustainability.vic.gov.au/Government/Waste-and-resource-recovery/Recycled-materials-in-pavement>

There others option for waste disposal, such as the use of glass for road material, which is also a problem waste item.

3. I have also a long held and commonly shared belief that rewarding bottle collection and other such incentives are a positive way to effectively reduce waste and also have other social, educational and economic benefits for community members. It enriches the quality of the community and encourages positive interaction, and can inspire and motivate young people to engage in helpful planful behaviour, with the knowledge that they are improving the environment and their own lives, financially and otherwise. It has been demonstrated in other States that waste is dramatically reduced where cash for bottle programs operate. The cost element has been debated as a problem, but clearly the responsible conversion of plastic waste, as described in 2 and 3 above, opens new opportunities for resourceful recyclers, and would help to subsidise the recycling logistics.

In conclusion, I would like to submit that a baseline for waste materials should be established that they should be put to good use, and should never become “waste” or land fill. We should recognise the potential of waste as stored energy and this energy should be harvested, rather than wasted. Given the technologies above, and others, governments and communities should make waste a thing of the past. This should be treated as an urgent priority, more important than military excursions and fanfare. The consequences and costs of not dealing with waste are more likely to adversely affect us than a military event. Climate change and environmental collapse are realities that need to be faced squarely now, and with judgement and good reason. Clearly it is the responsibility of governments to lead the way for communities to deal with the urgent problem of waste.

I thank you for your kind attention.

Yours Sincerely,

Jenny Fry

