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From: Craig Ward <web@greens.org.au>
Sent: Saturday, 4 May 2019 5:24 PM
To: recyclinginquiry
Subject: Reduce, then recycle

RE: INQUIRY INTO RECYCLING AND WASTE MANAGEMENT

The very first thing we need to do is reduce the amount of plastic packaging in our economy. Going to a supermarket and seeing all the fruit and vegetables wrapped in plastic is heartbreaking. It's unnecessary, wasteful, and expensive. Stop it.

Following that, it's time for the government to take back responsibility for waste management. Outsourcing this task to various private and public companies is the cause of the problem. Councils and governments are equally as complicit in this. Councils have the means to police the behaviour of their residents but choose not to. As a waste collector I've lost count of the number of times I've been instructed to empty a recycle bin into a garbage collection truck because it's easier than holding the resident accountable for their failure to do the right thing. The amount of recyclable material that I see tipped at landfill every day is disgraceful, and it comes from both residential and industrial users.

The population is growing, and it's unsustainable to allow people to continue to do the wrong thing.

-- Craig Ward

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I'm happy for my submission and details to be made public.