

From: Jeffrey Barlow <web@greens.org.au>
Sent: Saturday, 4 May 2019 10:38 PM
To: recyclinginquiry
Subject: Urgent action required for recycling for Victoria

RE: INQUIRY INTO RECYCLING AND WASTE MANAGEMENT

Dear Inquiry Members

Given we live on a finite planet with finite resources it is obvious that we need to take care of that environment and of the resources we use to ensure future generations can survive. We also need to protect the environment from deprecation by we humans by finding intelligent ways to recycle our 'waste' products eg if we recycle paper we save forests; if we recycle glass and concrete we reuse the products from which they were first created.

Now is the time to 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.

And we must seriously consider and implement 10c refunds on bottles and cans.

It makes no sense to send food waste to land fill when Digesters are available to process the food waste to produce energy and other by-products for us to use. Such large-scale composting can be used to divert food waste from landfill. For example Yarra Valley Water is developing a Food Waste to Energy plant in Lilydale but I am advised this will only take food waste from large commercial organizations and not from local residents in the Yarra Valley. Council's must be provided with the necessary finance to mandate them to collect food waste, sort it and process it in a Waste to Energy or Waste to fertilizer process so landfill is not needed.

These are all solutions that the inquiry could look at. I would like the government to know that the community is desperate for this kind of action with all manner of products that could be recycled and a whole recycling industry could be established to increase employment and reduce land fill and protect our planet.

Thank you.

-- Jeffrey Barlow

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