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From: Tamsin Kelly <web@greens.org.au>
Sent: Sunday, 5 May 2019 8:39 AM
To: recyclinginquiry
Subject: Ms

RE: INQUIRY INTO RECYCLING AND WASTE MANAGEMENT

I want to see the Victorian Government do all it can to reduce waste and facilitate recycling. It's no longer acceptable to have recyclable waste go to landfill, or escaping into the environment, or the risks of stockpiling in warehouses.

We need a massive uptick in recycling facilities here in Victoria. Surely there are innovations that, once established, can significantly financially self-sustain their recycling activities, or maybe even bring income to the State.

Too often, consumers have the frustration of goods arriving in excessive packaging, often needlessly made of polystyrene and other difficult to recycle materials. Not to mention all the packaging shops throw away for numerous items they display for sale. So in addition I propose a small levy on packaging that could help fund the recycling and disposal required. If the levy was graded according to the amount and materials of packaging, this would encourage manufacturers to make environmentally responsible choices in how they package their goods.

Establishing a 10¢ refund on bottles and cans is proven to help ensure these high value materials are returned to the recycling stream. This should have been established in Victoria years ago, but better late than never.

As a matter of urgency, all single use plastic items should be banned, wherever possible. Hopefully this would quickly have a positive effect on our local environment; reducing unsightly and harmful litter in our streets, waterways and parks.

-- Tamsin Kelly
[REDACTED]

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