

From: Lisa Coffa <web@greens.org.au>
Sent: Thursday, 9 May 2019 7:41 AM
To: recyclinginquiry
Subject: Ms

RE: INQUIRY INTO RECYCLING AND WASTE MANAGEMENT

As an active community member I have been very frustrated that there has been no really attempt by any levels of government to support and encourage the community to produce less waste and move to a circular economy. Surely if we don't have the waste we don't need to work out what to do with it.

Since the China National Swords Policy was implemented the government's lack of action on this essential service has left myself and my community powerless. I was extremely disappointed that our recycling was going overseas and there was very little attempt to make sure it was actually being recycled.

I believe the Victorian State and Local government has a critical role to play in ensuring we have a strong and sustainable and circular waste system.

The areas that I consider the responsibilities of the State and Local government include:

- environmental regulation;
- community education;
- local infrastructure planning and investment;
- market development to stimulate a local circular economy;
- advocacy to the federal government on package stewardship and sustainable packaging design; and
- industry / essential service regulation.

The community needs all levels of government to priorities this issues, to support and encourage community through engagement, education, information and knowledge sharing regarding responsible waste management at the householder level. Changing community behaviour towards generating less waste, quality of recycling material, separation at source, resource recovery, diversion from landfill and the support of local markets that generate a circular economy is fundamental to building a sustainable kerbside waste management system.

Please help us to jointly solve this very important issue for this and future generations.

-- Lisa Coffa

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