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From: Inquiry into Recycling and Waste Management [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 9 May 2019 5:40 PM
To: recyclinginquiry
Subject: New Submission to Inquiry into Recycling and Waste Management

Inquiry Name: Inquiry into Recycling and Waste Management

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SUBMISSION CONTENT:

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My name is Alex and I have been growing more and more concerned about the state of waste and recycling management in Victoria. Currently, resource recovery is extremely low with many councils having to dump recycling material from kerbside collections into landfill, at a significant to Councils and the environment. If this issue continues to be mishandled, it will have grave impacts to our environment with effects felt for generations to come.

We need to implement a waste and resource recovery model that is effective and sustainable with minimal impact. Waste management and resource recovery should build local markets, engage the community and promote sustainable consumption. The long-term goal should be to move Victoria to a circular economy.

There are four key actions we can take to improve our waste management system, this is aligned to the Municipal Association of Victoria's Action Plan Rescue our Recycling.

Action 1: Invest in recycling infrastructure

The lack of recycling infrastructure in Australia has led us to this crisis. We need greater capacity for materials recovery across the state.

Action 2: Fund and support market development

Support research and development to increase uptake of new uses for recycled materials. Set mandatory procurement targets for Australian recycled material by government agencies. This will help to create a market and drive a demand for recycled content.

Action 3: Introduce a container deposit scheme

Container deposit schemes have repeatedly demonstrated reduction of waste to landfill. Victoria and Tasmania are the only Australian states yet to commit to a scheme.

Action 4: Bolster community education

Develop and deliver a consistent state-wide community education campaign focused on:

- making waste-wise decisions
- putting pressure on producers to reduce waste

- what can and can't go into recycling and the costs of getting it wrong.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to have my say and I look forward to receiving information on the outcomes of the inquiry.

Thanks, Alex

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File1:

File2:

File3: