

Submission No 4 for the INQUIRY INTO RECYCLING AND WASTE MANAGEMENT.

I was present during the inquiry and have the following questions that I would have liked to ask and statements I would like to make on each of the interviews.

Hume City Council

- The officer that was questioned said as far as they were concerned this company involved with the Campbellfield fire had the correct planning permits in place to do what they said they were going to do. The planning was backed by the appropriate standards in place that would be controlled by a building surveyor or like. I felt Hume City Council like probably all other councils rely entirely on authorities like the EPA and Work Safe to monitor and protect the workers, public, and the immediate area from any danger from what is going on in industrial areas in their precinct. Councils are very active in the residential area with respect to non permit activities but not so much in industrial areas.
- I suggest that again information be shared between authorities and stakeholders. This should include City Councils who when issuing permits can have an over view of a concentration of potential activities that could cause danger hot spots. In other words in this case not allow too many businesses that store flammable or potentially explosive materials to reside in side by side factories. This obviously requires more surveillance and routine checks. Many other illegal activities could be uncovered at the same time.
- A question from the panel asked to the witness – What percentage of recycled waste from the domestic yellow bins was actually recycled. The answer was that they pay a company to take care of it and it is not know at this stage what percentage if any is actually recycled. I would suggest that this is how most Councils handle their collected yellow bin waste. I have tried to get an answer form Banyule City Council where I live and couldn't get an accurate indication.

Ken Woodward

