

Submission No 5 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.

Witness - Work Safe

- With regard to the Campbellfield fire again some visits were conducted to the site prior to the fire where it was established that possibly untrained foreign worker were working and that many breaches of safe work were noted. They were eager to ensure that they followed all their correct procedures in dealing with this. My question is what has gone wrong here. I suggest that this place should have been immediately shut down as it was obvious to everyone including the EPA that this was an unsafe site. I am not sure if the role of Work Care includes the power to do this and if not the power should be given to them to do so.
- Work Safe conduct random and routine inspections on a lot of businesses in industrial areas. We need to ask them what percentage of all work places does this represent. In a perfect world given the staff to do so a check of every factory would uncover a lot of unsafe and illegal activities which would include chemical storage. Do we need to increase the amount of inspectors on the ground? All this information could be used to create a data base that all authorities could access.

Ken Woodward

