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From: Inquiry into Recycling and Waste Management [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 10 May 2019 10:26 AM
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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The Victorian government needs to establish and maintain a coherent, efficient and environmentally responsible approach to solid waste management. Victoria needs to take responsibility for its own waste and find a sustainable solution for its management that does not involve ignoring it or handing it over to someone else to deal with.

Importantly, education around reducing the amount of waste created is vital and putting programmes in place to ensure the reduction of waste created is critical and the most important way waste can be managed. This would save government costs in the long run as there will be less waste to manage overall.

More education around reusing, re-purposing, repairing and correct recycling, as well as supporting the recycling industry by buying recycled products, is also required. And the local recycling industry should be supported through encouraging or subsidising the use of local recycled material.

Another vital aspect is the redirection of food waste from landfill to composting. Food waste makes up 40% of our bins and should never go to landfill. By helping communities to compost, landfill waste will be dramatically reduced and the associated costs of collecting it will also be reduced.

It should be mandatory that all businesses, schools and organisations have composting and recycling services.

A container deposit scheme must be implemented. It will enable more recyclables to be captured and will reduce litter.

Businesses need to be taught the importance of using reusables instead of single-use as much as possible and they should be assisted to change to reusable packaging.

Waste to energy is not the solution and I do not support this. The downfalls of this solution are well documented and Australia should not go down this path.

Thank you for taking the time to read my submission and for conducting an enquiry into how we manage

our recycling and waste. This industry is currently in a crisis and it is critical that we find a way to turn this around and lessen the amount of waste we create and reuse the resources found in the waste that we do create.

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File1:

File2:

File3: