

From: Inquiry into Recycling and Waste Management [REDACTED]
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Inquiry Name: Inquiry into Recycling and Waste Management

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SUBMISSION CONTENT:

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Strategies to reduce waste generation.

The biggest impact that the Victorian Government can make in reducing waste is to reduce the waste generation in the first place. Every bit of additional packaging that is added in the supply chain is another valuable resource being used, that ends up as a problem. We have somehow landed ourselves in a place of everything needs a package for it to be hygienic, not tampered with etc. Then we have the problem of what to do with the waste. Consumers hardly think about it as there are limited options to buy unpackaged goods. And where packaging can be recycled it is complicated for people to know how to do so. By eliminating so much unnecessary packaging surely we are tackling the problem at its source.

Big retailers, supermarkets, fast food chains, big 'department' stores, represent where the majority of the population shop and can afford to shop. These retailers need to have the responsibility of reducing the waste that they generate in the first place, it is difficult for consumers to shop without purchasing overpackaged goods in the first place. If it was legislated that these retailers had to reduce the packaging of their products in the first place there would be less waste to have to deal with.

The state and federal government has an obligation to put in place stringent legislation to tackle the generation of packaging, single use plastics and non degradable waste.

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File1:

File2:

File3: