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From: Daniel Thompson <web@greens.org.au>
Sent: Thursday, 18 April 2019 2:34 PM
To: recyclinginquiry
Subject: Why bother recycling if it's just going to landfill!

RE: INQUIRY INTO RECYCLING AND WASTE MANAGEMENT

It was disheartening to read in The Age details of councils dumping recycled waste into landfill containers, and refusing to guarantee ongoing landfill services, all due to a complete lack of organisation and plans for recycling waste.

It's never going to be a cheap solution but that's why we elect parliamentarians, to make tough decisions regarding issues such as laws and tax to ensure we have a better place to live. It is inarguable that our resources are limited, and paying a little extra to recycle these goods may very well turn out to pay dividends later.

Investing in the states recycling program, and incentives such as the 10 cent can/bottle return (which seems to be functioning well in NSW) seem like good methods to start. Further separation into multiple bins (glass/soft plastic/hard plastic/cardboard) such as is done in some English counties may result in improved contamination rates, and I think people would be happy largely to abide by these restrictions. Fines for non-compliance with recycling programs could be utilised to encourage better recycling practices. Something needs to be done about the recycling crisis and soon, we can't afford to have these recyclable products just thrown into landfill.

-- Daniel Thompson
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I wish to remain confidential.