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From: Inquiry into Recycling and Waste Management [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 18 April 2019 3:35 PM
To: recyclinginquiry
Subject: New Submission to Inquiry into Recycling and Waste Management

Inquiry Name: Inquiry into Recycling and Waste Management

Ms (Janet) Belinda Pearson
[REDACTED]

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SUBMISSION CONTENT:

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ReCycling Review

I have been uneasy for years about Australia exporting our “waste” to China because:

1. There is a massive energy expenditure in collecting, delivering to ports and carting it overseas.
2. Australians have no say in how the waste is treated, leading perhaps to massive pollution in our world, while not in our own back yard.
3. The probability that this “solution” is temporary and we appear to ignore the need to examine and experiment with appropriate treatments to manage recycling; I believe there are experiments elsewhere but we have not contributed, to my knowledge.

I am distressed that so many of us have been composting, sorting and cleaning our waste while trusting our Environmental planning authorities to be engaged with preparation to take responsibility for it. Then appalled that

no alternative collection of thin-plastic material was undertaken by Boroondara Council and perhaps others; the willingness of the Big 2 supermarkets (‘redcycle’ I believe) to step into this area, is appreciated. I believe it is important not to discard good habits!

Terms of Reference of Inquiry into Recycling and Waste Management

The terms set out are comprehensive except for

1. Determining how much effort our households are willing to contribute to waste management – this may be related to refunds on packaging like bottles.
2. Training on sorting and composting would be useful. I remember when I first returned to Melbourne I enthusiastically booked in to a session watching the sorting process; it was rescheduled by Boroondara Council and never, to my knowledge, repeated.

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File1:

File2:

File3: