

NSW Parliament Legislative Assembly Standing Committee On Public Works

INQUIRY INTO MUNICIPAL WASTE MANAGEMENT IN NSW

Submission By Visy Recycling

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Executive Summary

History shows that NSW has municipal waste management systems which have developed greatly in the past half century. The most obvious public health issues apparent in the generation and management of waste 50 years ago have been adequately addressed in the waste collection, recovery and disposal systems now employed. However, it is certain now that these systems do not address our community's requirement to live sustainably or the needs of our descendents to be able to enjoy the same quality of natural environment that we do.

As local government communities in NSW we need to give more widespread consideration to the complete set of costs and benefits which flow from strategic waste management decisions.

We need to insure greater certainty for private enterprise that the municipal services they are being asked to tender on are assessed for social and environmental impacts as well as for financial outcome.

We need to enjoy increased confidence in the transparency and integrity of the tender assessment processes.

We need to demand more rigorous examination and verification of the technical claims made by tenderers,

We need to insist on receiving measurable improvement in the service efficiency and environmental performance resulting from strategic municipal waste management decisions

And we need to encourage greater investment in recycling manufacture in Australia - which will bring economic, social and environmental benefits.

