

Inquiry into Waste Generation and Resource Efficiency  
Productivity Commission  
Locked Bag 2, Collins St East  
MELBOURNE VIC 8003

Submission

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

The VWMA generally agrees with the draft report. Without bringing about a need for over all change the VWMA makes the following observations:

- Waste management policy should focus on the environmental and social externalities associated with waste disposal, not upstream issues.
- Landfill levies- does this encourage proper disposal or is it just a “fund raiser”? Is there enough evidence to show one way or the other?
- Is the correct balance with the landfill levy going back to industry?
- Waste management policy should be guided by best practice approaches to policy development, namely that objectives are clarified; all expected costs and benefits of different options are considered; and the policy selected that gives the best return to the community.
- There is doubt as to Local Government having the role for municipal waste disposal control.
- Zero waste policies are unrealistic.
- Does the public understand the cost benefits of waste disposal/recycling?
- Does Government give enough industry incentives for waste reduction to landfill?
- Regulations will not necessarily bring about better results.

The VWMA would welcome any future discussions/forums on the issue.

You may call me on (03) 9646 8590 to clarify any issue.

Yours sincerely,

Rob Allen  
Executive Officer