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Subject: New Submission to Inquiry into the Sustainability and Operational Challenges of Victoria's Rural and Regional Councils
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Inquiry Name: Inquiry into the Sustainability and Operational Challenges of Victoria's Rural and Regional Councils

Mr Harry van Moorst

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SUBMISSION CONTENT:

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We are very concerned about the lack of sustainable Waste management and resource recovery options and practices in most local government areas in Victoria. We believe that, while the State Government's policy is heading in the right direction, the actual implementation of that policy is sadly lacking. We find that landfilling is still the primary option - well ahead of recycling and resource recovery options. The infrastructure for recovering resources instead of designating them as 'waste' and dumping them in landfill, is not being developed and few incentives appear to be provided by Government (despite a \$450 million bank balance derived from community payments as 'waste levies'. Many of the landfills, especially in some rural and non-urban areas, are located on flood plains, near waterways, etc. and contribute to environmental pollution, In other, urban areas they become mountains of smelly and unsightly waste imposed upon communities that were never consulted about such developments within their region.

It is important that a more coherent, consistent and resource recovery-oriented waste management policy implementation process was put in place within each local government area. The move to better sorting, recycling recovery and waste to energy options requires strong government support to assist local government to establish such infrastructure.

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File1:

File2:

File3: