

ZERO TO LANDFILL

FIXING OUR WASTE & RECYCLING CRISIS

A Liberal Nationals Government will transform waste management in Victoria and commit to zero household waste going to landfill by 2035.

POLICY

THE NATIONALS
for Regional Victoria



OUR PLEDGE FOR VICTORIA

In the largest environmental overhaul in Victoria in decades, a Liberal Nationals Government will transform waste management in Victoria and end household waste being sent to Victorian landfill by 2035.

The Liberal Nationals will improve the capacity of our local recycling processing industry to sort and recover recyclable materials, so Victoria's recycling goes to market instead of going to landfill, as it is under Labor.

Investing in new technology

Investment in new and upgraded local recycling systems is required in order to increase volumes of recycled materials that can be processed in Victoria.

This visionary Zero to Landfill policy will also bring energy from waste technology currently being used in central Paris, Amsterdam, Germany and Singapore to Victoria.

Meeting Victoria's growing energy needs

Large-scale energy-from-waste facilities will also create a low emission, baseload energy supply to help meet Victoria's growing energy needs.



ZERO TO LANDFILL

The Liberal Nationals want to resolve Victoria's ongoing waste and recycling crisis.

Victorians need leadership from the State Government to implement new approaches to waste management and energy supply in the wake of Labor's current recycling crisis and energy reliability issues.

The Andrews Labor Government has more often been the cause of these problems, sitting on hordes of landfill levies rather than supporting investment in modern, high-tech solutions.

Government must take a key leadership role in ensuring Victoria can sustainably and self-sufficiently process recyclable materials efficiently and competitively into the future.

For too long government has failed to support the necessary investment to upgrade Victorian recycling facilities, and failed to support the development of a leading and sustainable domestic recycling industry.

Under Labor, recycling in Victoria has gone backwards - the volumes of kerbside recycling continues to decrease, while the volume of kerbside waste going to landfill is growing. Victorians are losing faith in recycling; this trend must be reversed.



ZERO TO LANDFILL

A Liberal Nationals Government will transform waste management in Victoria by committing to a 100% reduction of household waste going to landfill in Victoria by 2035, and fast-tracking the development and construction of new waste management facilities including 'energy-from-waste' projects and innovative recycling solutions.

The Liberal Nationals will:

1	<p>Work with industry and councils to achieve a:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- 33% reduction of household waste going to landfill by 2025;- 66% reduction of household waste going to landfill by 2030; and- 100% reduction of household waste going to landfill by 2035.
2	<p>Commit \$120 million (over four years) from the Sustainability Fund to create a Zero to Landfill Fund with two streams:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- A 'Recycling Futures Stream' to upgrade recycling technology, standards, rules and facilities and partner with local councils; and- An 'Energy-from-Waste Stream' to deliver projects that recover energy from non-recyclable waste.
3	<p>Commit State Government departments to work with industry to expedite approvals to get Victoria's waste management and recycling back on track as quickly as possible.</p>
4	<p>Require State Government agencies (such as Parks Victoria and the Victorian School Building Authority) to prioritise fully recycled plastic products as part of their purchasing policies.</p>

Solutions, not more talk, needed to fix Victoria's recycling crisis.

Practical solutions to help solve Victoria's recycling crisis are being ignored by the Andrews Labor Government.

Tens of thousands of tonnes of recycling is now being stockpiled in warehouses across Melbourne or sent to landfill because of Daniel Andrews' failure to act to prevent what's become an environmental disaster.

Despite this, Labor continues to make money through bin taxes without any plan to drive genuine change.

A Liberal Nationals Government will require government agencies such as Parks Victoria and the Victorian School Building Authority to prioritise fully recycled plastic products – such as those made by Replas, a Carrum Downs

mixed recycled plastics manufacturer – as part of their purchasing policies.

Replas takes plastic waste and uses it to create recycled plastic products, such as park benches, bollards, walkways and playground material, which can then be enjoyed by the community.

This is genuine action the Victorian Government can take now to ensure plastics that are currently being stockpiled or sent to landfill are instead utilised to the benefit of our communities.

This will help protect our environment and reduce the recycling stockpile, while also promoting local manufacturing and creating jobs.



ZERO TO LANDFILL FUND

FUTURE RECYCLING

To achieve sustainable recycling outcomes for Victorians, we must develop an improved local capacity to sort and recover recyclable materials.

Unless we act, the current crisis of unprocessed recyclable materials building up in warehouses and being sent to landfill will continue.

The development of high-tech recycling facilities can allow Victoria to maximise the resource recovery from our commingled recycling, divert additional waste from landfill, and produce materials with higher levels of purity for use by local industry.

To fix the Victorian recycling crisis, the Liberal Nationals' fund will assist our recycling industry to develop new and upgraded facilities, support the research, development and commercialisation of innovative technologies, and modernise recycling standards and rules.

"Where are we going to move it to? Are we going to put it in a hole in the ground? It's up to the government to step in and fix the problem now."

Carly Whittington, Marwood Property Group Project Coordinator

ENERGY-FROM-WASTE

On top of our current recycling crisis, Victoria generates more than 1.7 million tonnes of household waste that goes to landfill each year, a figure that is growing.

Decomposing household waste in landfill produces significant quantities of the greenhouse gas methane, which is roughly 30 times more potent than carbon dioxide as a heat-trapping gas. Landfill is not a viable long term strategy.

The major landfill site for south-east Melbourne, located in Hampton Park, is forecast to reach capacity by 2025.

When this occurs, non-recyclable household waste will have to be transported to other landfill sites across the city, forcing hundreds of additional garbage truck movements each day from the south-east to the west.

Solutions to divert waste from Victorian landfill sites already exist, including cutting edge energy-from-waste facilities commonly used across Europe. There is an appetite for this technology in Australia.

Extracting energy from non-recyclable waste provides for a much better use of resources than allowing waste to rot away in landfill.

In Victoria, Australian Paper is planning an energy-from-waste facility in Maryvale, which will have the capacity to process 650,000 tonnes of waste per year. The plant will allow Australian Paper to reduce its gas consumption by 4 million gigajoules (approximately two-thirds) and avoid buying up to 30 MWe of electricity. Australian Paper is Victoria's largest commercial consumer of gas.

To kick-start the transformation of Victorian waste management and provide strong support for the adoption of new clean technology, the Liberal Nationals' fund will assist companies at all stages of development and construction to bring their projects to operation.

"Waste to energy facilities offer opportunities to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, reduce reliance on landfill, and reduce fossil fuel demand by providing an alternative fuel source."

Victorian Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning

"...waste to energy is not a deterrent to recycling. Sweden, Denmark and the Netherlands are among the countries with the most energy from waste facilities, and have some of the highest recycling rates."

Renee Cho, Earth Institute – Columbia University

BENEFITS OF 'ENERGY-FROM-WASTE' TECHNOLOGY

REDUCES WASTE TO LANDFILL

- Adoption of energy-from-waste can drastically reduce the volume of household waste sent to landfill each year.
- Victoria currently sends approximately 1.7 million tonnes of municipal solid waste to landfill annually.
- The south east Melbourne tip at Hampton Park will run out of space by 2025 based on current forecasts.
- One thermal energy-from-waste plant operating today could reduce Victoria's household waste to landfill by one-third.

REDUCES GREENHOUSE GAS [GHG] EMISSIONS

- Energy-from-waste facilities would be built to comply with the European Union standards for particulate matter, which are the strictest in the world.
- Energy-from-waste reduces net GHG emissions in operation because it completely avoids the methane that would have been produced by rotting organic waste in landfill.
- The proposed Australian Paper facility will reduce emissions by 543,000 tonnes each year, equivalent to approximately 100,000 cars.
- If all of Melbourne's municipal solid waste – approximately 1.3m tonnes a year - were sent to energy-from-waste facilities, this would reduce emissions by about 1.3m tonnes, equivalent to taking around 260,000 cars off the road.

REDUCES CONGESTION

- Without a viable solution ahead of the closure of the Hampton Park landfill, from 2025 south east Melbourne's waste will have to be sent to another landfill with daily truck movements estimated at 300-400 per day or over 100,000 per year.
- A single diesel waste truck travelling the 140km round trip from Hampton Park tip to Ravenhall would emit the equivalent of up to 175kg of CO2 per trip.

CLEAN, GREEN, BASELOAD ENERGY PRODUCTION

- Energy from waste facilities can provide secure, uninterrupted baseload energy supply, without the constraints of solar and wind energy generation.
- The \$400 million Kwinana energy-from-waste facility currently under construction in Perth will have the capacity to process 400,000 tonnes of waste, and produce enough electricity to power over 50,000 households.
- Converting Victoria's 1.7 million tonnes of household waste to energy would power two cities the size of Ballarat every year.

More info?

vic.nationals.org.au

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