

PUBLIC

SUBMISSION FOR

STANDING COMMITTEE ON
ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS



Name - Muriel White

I wish to submit my submission into the Inquiry on municipal waste management in W.A. I have a long time interest in waste & recycling and I am the founder & chair person of JUNKBUSTERS INC. a community group dedicated to reducing landfill.

- Approximately 80% of municipal waste is either recyclable or compostable, therefore greater efforts need to be in place for this to happen.
- Every council should have a well-supported Earth Cavers program.
- It is preferable for waste to be kept clean & sorted at source so that the materials can be successfully recycled for their maximum benefit.
- Governments & their departments should show the way & be a good example. (I work for DSC a Dept of Health & the waste is excessive & recycling efforts patchy to poor.)
- I was on the Community Consultative Committee for the SEMRC 4 years ago and it doesn't appear to have achieved much. It is now the Rivers Regional Council and still has not got its site for its Recovery Project.

- waste continues to grow
- The more waste separation at sources the smaller the RRRC's need to be & possibly with less problems of odour.
- recycling is not as effective as it should be - too much is contaminated.
- The bigger the composting plant the more possibility of bad smells. Public need to be educated that this is 'their' problem a not someone else's. They are part of the solution - reduce, reuse, recycle, compost etc.
- Need for an education budget to fund TV ads like the waterwise ones.
- EDUCATE, EDUCATE, EDUCATE
- Not enough is being done to support groups like ours, we have been operating since 2002 and have had little help.
- EPR and CDT need to be law. By putting a deposit on containers you are not only ensuring they are returned you are sending out a message saying this item has value. South Australia has been doing it successfully for many years.

I am happy to appear before your committee if you want me to. Thanks.

M. White

1.2.09.