



Our reference: *DOC/*

25 January 2018

Waste and Resource Recovery Team
Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning
PO Box 500
Melbourne VIC 8002

Dear Waste and Resource Recovery Team

Managing e-waste in Victoria

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the proposed approach to managing electrical and electronic waste (e-waste) in Victoria.

Mount Alexander Shire Council (MASC) is supportive of the plan to ban e-waste to landfill. However, Council is particularly concerned about the costs that will be imposed on Councils and ultimately ratepayers.

Specifically MASC would like to make the following comments in relation to the 'Managing e-waste in Victoria Policy Impact Assessment':

- MASC supports the proposed definition of "e-waste" as electronic or electrical equipment, or anything with a power cord or battery at the end of its useful life.
- The cost of recovering a greater variety of e-waste should be covered by the producers or importers of e-waste. MASC supports the idea to expand the National Television and Computer Recycling Scheme (i.e. the collection and recycling of not only televisions, computers and related components but all e-waste material as per proposed e-waste definition.

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- Although both our waste facilities were included in the DEWLP physical assessment program for potential infrastructure investment, there is no guarantee our facilities will receive funding to support the collection of e-waste.
- Even if MASC waste facilities are funded to build fit for purpose infrastructure solutions, the funding package and subsequent construction will not commence until after the e-waste ban commences.
- MASC believes that councils should be compensated for any reasonable additional waste management costs that directly result from the ban for the first two years.
- MASC is concerned about the perceived value of e-waste components being overrated. Much of the newly classified e-waste material has less value than what has traditionally been seen as e-waste. If this added material is not valued by collectors and processors, Council will bear the costs of its fate.
- In the context of the State's imposed rate cap on local government, the costs of the State's imposed landfill ban will put pressure on other council services.

If you have are interested in additional feedback or have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me on 5471 1836.

Yours sincerely

Michael Scott
Waste and Recycling Coordinator