Managing e-waste in Victoria – starting the conversation

Questionnaire

**Submitter:** Individual 3

**Q 1: Is the proposed definition of e-waste clear to you?**

Yes, and encouragingly comprehensive

**Q 2: Are the proposed categories of e-waste clear to you? If not, can you suggest any specific changes to the existing categories, or another method of categorisation?**  
Yes **Q 3 : What specific issues do you believe we need to address by banning e-waste from landfill?**

Avoiding the waste of recoverable resources and embodied energy. Recovery of toxic elements to prevent environmental pollution. Reduce the need to find more landfill sites. Improve product stewardship and personal responsibility for waste created.

**Q 4: What do you see as current and future impacts of e-waste on the environment or human health? Can you provide examples?**

Diminished reserves of raw materials. Greater energy use. Potential for toxic components to leak into the environment and contaminate food supplies.

**Q 5: What do you see as potential impacts (both positive and negative) from recovering e-waste?**  
Creation of new jobs. Reduction in resource extraction. Safety issues surrounding handling of potentially toxic materials need to be addressed. Recovered e waste needs to then be processed responsibly and safely. **Q 6: Do you believe there are particular reasons for not recovering e-waste?**  
  
If recovery leads to a worse environmental or health outcomes than dumping it to landfill, then it would be the wrong move.

**Q 7: Do you believe there are other issues with the e-waste recycling market, or with specific stages of the e-waste recycling market?**

Contacts within the recycling industry suggest that laws are circumvented and waste is exported by unscrupulous operators to countries that are not capable of safely handling it. Adequate audit and monitoring processes will be required to prevent or reduce this.

**Q 8: Are you aware of other barriers to achieving a sustainable e-waste recycling market?**

Education of the general public. Availability of a large number of convenient drop-off points for e waste. Funding the scheme and avoidance of rorting. Funding models that don't encourage illegal dumping of e waste.

**Q 9: Do you think e-waste and its components are undervalued in Australia?**

Yes.

**Q 10: Do you believe that banning e-waste from landfill will achieve these outcomes?**

Yes, if properly managed.

**Q 11: Are there other outcomes you believe the commitment should, or is likely to, achieve?**

Question not answered

**Q 12: What criteria do you think will be useful to help us determine how the different types of e-waste are managed in Victoria?**

Question not answered

**Q 13: Do you think some regions will require more time to prepare for a landfill ban than others?**

It depends on what processes for collecting and handling e waste are put in place.

**Q 14: What changes, if any, will need to occur in your region before e-waste can be banned from landfill and managed appropriately?**

Question not answered

**Q 15: Do you think banning e-waste from landfill in Victoria will need to take a phased approach? If so, what do you think should be key considerations in determining how the phasing occurs?**

Question not answered

**Q 16: Do you believe there are other principles that must be considered in the development of Victoria’s approach to ban e-waste from landfill?**

Question not answered

**Q 17: What other tools do you think the government should consider when designing Victoria’s approach to banning e-waste from landfill?**

Question not answered

**Q 18: How do you think community could be supported to ensure e-waste continues to be recovered and recycled?**

Question not answered

**Q 19: How do you think the design of the approach to banning e-waste could be designed to mitigate these unintended consequences?**

The can be avoided by funding the scheme through a levy paid at the time of purchase.

**Q 20: Are you aware of any policy developments or reviews, both interstate and nationally, that may be useful in the design and implementation of the e-waste commitment?**

Question not answered