
From: Christian Dietz
Sent: Monday, 18 December 2023 8:44 AM
To: Climate Change
Subject: draft Waste ERRP

Categories:

To whom it may concern,

my name is Chris and I live in Tasmania, Lindisfarne, to be precise, on the sunny side of the river. I believe that with the right strategies, Tasmania can significantly reduce waste emissions and move to a circular economy in an effort to move towards a sustainable way of living. Below, I outline my recommendations for improving the draft Waste ERRP.

1. Reusing waste and grey water for non-potable purposes:

- Tasmania should consider following in the footsteps of the Rouse Hill scheme in NSW, which provides thousands of residents with recycled water, saving over 1.8 billion litres of water per year.
- By reusing waste and grey water for non-potable purposes, Tasmania can reduce GHG emissions from water treatment and conserve precious freshwater resources.

2. Banning single-use items:

- Single-use items, even if biodegradable, still contribute to carbon emissions during production, transportation, and decomposition.
- Tasmania should ban all single-use items and encourage the use of sustainable alternatives.
- promote re-use models, e.g. refund for used bottles

3. Caution against widespread support of biogas:

- While biogas is a more sustainable option than traditional natural gas, it should only be considered as a transitional fuel for hard to decarbonise applications, e.g precursor for green aviation fuels
- Ultimately, burning biogas is a GHG emitting activity, so it should not be considered long-term.

4. Urgency and ambitious targets:

- Ambitious, quantifiable targets should replace ambiguous language to drive meaningful progress.
- Tasmania should set goals that align with the global commitment to keeping global temperatures below a 1.5°C increase.

5. Keeping organic waste out of landfills:

- Expanding the FOGO system across all sectors is crucial to reduce GHG emissions.
- Comprehensive public education campaigns about FOGO practices and benefits are necessary to encourage participation and understanding.
- Banning food waste across sectors and supporting food recovery models are vital components of effective waste reduction.

6. Restrict types of plastic in food packaging

- let the food packaging industry and supermarkets agree on a single polymer, allowing to produce foil, containers, foam etc.
- Ban all others.
- with only one type of plastic as input into a recycling scheme, this would be technically easy to manage and highly profitable.

7. Community engagement and business accountability:

- The success of the Tasmanian emissions reduction plans and the circular economy depend on involving the community in crafting solutions.
- Comprehensive public engagement, informing, and empowering residents is essential to drive behavioural change and garner support.

- Businesses must shoulder their responsibility by taking measurable action towards reusability, responsible production, and waste reduction.

The emphasis should be on genuine engagement, not just information sharing, to ensure widespread support for a sustainable future.

Thank you for your consideration,
Chris