



**TASMANIAN  
CLIMATE  
COLLECTIVE**

## **Tasmanian Climate Collective Submission to the draft Waste Emissions Reduction and Resilience Plan**

[Tasmanian Climate Collective](#) (TCC) offers this submission in our ongoing efforts to support the necessary actions required to mitigate and adapt to climate change in the face of the overwhelming deluge of scientific advice, misinformation, vested interest lobbying and other factors.

TCC is a group of committed organisations and individuals from across lutruwita, Tasmania who advocate for evidence based action on climate change. The Collective is made up of climate action, social and environmental groups and grassroots organisations. Tasmanian Climate Collective has no political affiliation and is composed of scientists, farmers, doctors, teachers, nurses and other concerned citizens calling for more action on climate change and a just transition for all Tasmanians.

TCC makes numerous submissions to inquiries such as this in our efforts to improve the chance of a safe, healthy and fair Tasmania. As a 100% volunteer run organisation, this takes many hours from many people. Even then, our submissions compete with those made by paid employees and lobbyists of powerful industries with vested interests. The David vs Goliath nature of our efforts takes a huge toll on our volunteers who would rather be giving their time to other causes, such as schools, sports, community care, etc. The excessive influence of lobbyists, political donors and powerful industries with vested interests currently prevents politicians and decision makers from acting on the best advice of independent experts in the interests of all Tasmanians. Before we address the consultation questions, we would like to make a single clear recommendation:

**Recommendation: Politicians and other decision makers in the Tasmanian government should directly consult independent scientific experts, act on their advice and adequately resource implementation.**

[Tasmanians](#) are concerned about climate change and looking for more ambitious, sector based climate policies. The failure of successive governments to act on the best scientific advice has left Tasmanians with worsening climate and ecological crises. Tasmania's current climate and energy transition policies do not yet reflect the advice of [climate scientists](#) and [policy experts](#).

Tasmania has been [plagued by concerns](#) about excessive influence of powerful vested interests. Tasmanians are [increasingly concerned](#) about our democratic processes and this is becoming a [major political issue](#).

The role of TCC and other concerned citizens should not be to provide expert evidence based advice. Our role is to demand that the Tasmanian government listen to and act on the advice of independent scientific experts, rather than the advice of high greenhouse gas emitters and their industry associations. In a properly functioning democracy, where decision makers have not been "captured" by vested interests, our role should be redundant.

## Introduction:

While the waste sector technically only accounts for 5% of Tasmania's GHG emissions, TCC understand the importance of waste emissions since:

- Emissions reductions in waste can impact emissions in other sectors, eg. Forestry waste incineration in LULUCF.
- There are numerous co-benefits of waste emissions reductions, such as more efficient use of resources, cost savings, ecological health and community engagement.

TCC are disappointed that, like other ERRPs, the draft Waste ERRP has been developed “in consultation with business and industry”, since their interests often conflict with “a science-based approach”. It is evident that the necessary transition to a truly sustainable economy is largely unwelcome by these vested interests who currently profit from business as usual. Many [industries](#) and [associations](#) have actively delayed attempts to follow a science based approach that requires rapid transition to a zero emissions economy. Climate change is upon us now, and every sector and activity, big and small, must do everything possible to take action.

The sobering update from the [Global Carbon Project](#) shows that emissions have increased in the last year, despite net zero pledges across the world. The longer we fail to mitigate the climate catastrophe, the more difficult mitigation becomes and the worse our future wellbeing. As the current Commission of Inquiry deals with the aftermath of failing children in the past, it is crucial that we do not fail current and future children with inadequate climate policies, particularly as the science is available now.

All policies and plans, including the Tasmanian Waste ERRP, must reflect this urgency and the high stakes of what is at risk – the people and places we love. Accordingly, this plan must be ambitious and well resourced.

## 1. How can we build on the work already underway to reduce emissions and build resilience in the waste sector?

TCC support the 4 priority areas in the draft Waste ERRP, although we would like to see more ambitious, measurable targets and details of resourcing. Since the state climate legislation is weak, these ERRPs are expected to achieve a lot. We encourage the Climate Change Office to have a more ambitious final Waste ERRP.

We would like to see vague terms such as “reducing/increasing”, “explore”, “consider”, “improve”, etc. replaced with measurable targets, timeframes and progress indicators.

Given the seriousness of the climate and environmental problems we face, TCC have concerns around “economic feasibility” limiting the necessary actions. It is not economically feasible to continue to degrade our planetary life support systems. [Putting action off to a future date is only going to become more and more costly.](#) The limitation of economic feasibility needs to be seen in the context of what is at stake and the statewide risk assessment. Mitigation is much more economically feasible than adaptation, even without consideration of the harms to the people and places we love.

We offer the following suggestions and recommendations:

- All initiatives in the Waste ERRP must be properly resourced to have meaningful impact. The Tasmanian government must demonstrate its sincerity about climate action with sufficient resourcing to all priority areas in the Waste ERRP.

As a community organisation, TCC are keenly aware of the risks of greenwashing and hollow words. We are keen to see the Tasmanian government demonstrate genuine commitment to emissions reductions and resilience plans, with proper funding and staff allocations.

- As the [largest emissions source in Tasmania](#), forestry waste must be urgently addressed and brought into scope of the Waste ERRP.

The draft Waste ERRP acknowledges the significant overlap between waste and other sectors, while dealing with waste from those other sectors in the relevant ERRP. This will delay dealing with the major contribution of forest waste incineration until the LULUCF ERRP. Given the seriousness of the climate breakdown, we cannot afford to delay an emissions reduction plan for forestry waste.

- The successful FOGO system should be expanded to all sectors of the economy (including government) as soon as technically possible.

This should include a public education campaign around FOGO including:

- What can be FOGOed, what can't
- How it works
- Where the composting happens
- How the compost is used
- Benefits to Tasmania and Tasmanians
- Elevation of expertise amid the misinformation and disinformation in traditional and social media

While much food and organic waste is generated in the domestic sector, the expansion of FOGO into more public and commercial areas demonstrates to the community that better use of organic waste is now an integral part of Tasmania's circular economy.

It is important that the same waste reduction targets are applied across all regions, but the methods of achieving that should be determined by each region.

- The proposed statewide community awareness program is crucial and must be resourced properly. A broad public education campaign on Tasmania leading the world in circular economy principles and actions of waste and resource management would lead to the following benefits:

- Educating Tasmanians about circular economy principles, practices and benefits.
- Educating parliamentarians, business leaders and other decision makers about circular economy principles, practices and benefits. The necessary change to a truly sustainable economy needs leadership that is currently lacking. Education could support stronger leadership on a "science-based approach".
- Alleviating some of the high level of anxiety, anger and even despair in young people at the failure of those making decisions now, as in the past, that are not taking their future safety and indeed survival seriously enough.

- o Engendering pride within the Tasmanian community about our leadership into an innovative, low emissions, thriving new economy. This pride must have broad appeal across all demographics, with a particular focus on youth and youth mental health (as called for in the [Tasmanian Youth Story](#)).
  - o Encouraging broad community support for ongoing evolution to a circular economy for the benefit of the people and the places we love within our island. Something as broad and powerful as the “Care for Kids” campaign in the 1980s is needed. There would be strong mental health and community cohesion benefits from supporting the circle of ‘Caring for nature, Caring for self, Caring for others’ embedded in a circular economy model. Health and economics are intertwined.
  - o Elevation of expertise amid the misinformation and disinformation around recycling and waste in traditional and social media
  - o Demonstrate that the Waste ERRP is part of bringing about the way of life that Tasmanians have repeatedly called for in [Tasmania Together](#) (2001), [PESRAC \(2020\)](#), [The Tasmanian Way \(2020\)](#) and the [Stuff of Dreams \(2023\)](#). As a collective of community groups, TCC wants to see this demonstration that the Tasmanian government is acting for the interests of all Tasmanians.
- The data collected by the Waste and Resource Recovery Board will be crucial in tracking progress of initiatives in the Waste ERRP. This work must be sufficiently resourced and publicised, in keeping with the principles of transparency and integrity in reporting. It is important to measure and report emissions and sequestration separately for a proper understanding of opportunities to reduce emissions and increase sequestration.
  - Businesses and industry have largely demonstrated that they prioritise profit above sustainability (with a few impressive exceptions). It is simply not good enough that they “have a range of targets and initiatives”. There is abundant evidence that voluntary compliance rarely works. The greenwashing of profit focussed organisations must be converted to real, measurable actions as soon as technically possible with deterrent level penalties for non-compliance.
  - Use of plastics must be reduced at the source. Making companies responsible for their plastic use may be beyond the scope of this plan but the issue should be raised locally and federally. In an ideal world, each product could have a ‘planetary health’ whole of life cycle rating, like the familiar Energy Rating Scale or Heart Health tick - although this would need to be protected from greenwashing and be underpinned by robust compliance rules and monitoring, not just guidelines.
  - Increasing awareness of waste management among young people is important and we are pleased to see this prioritised in the draft Waste ERRP. This matches our own experiences of listening to our young people. However, this awareness raising must be coupled with genuinely listening to young Tasmanians and allowing them to have real impact on waste actions, even when there are business cost implications, as there inevitably will be.

The Tasmanian government has a record of well-intended engagement with young people that has failed to listen and act in their interests.

Many young Tasmanians could teach the rest of us how to reduce our waste, rather than the other way around. For example, [Grassroots Action Network Tasmania](#), rescue food from bins and redistribute it at their public access food pantry. They also created and distribute this wonderful pamphlet:

### What can we do?

- Become a conscious consumer – Above all, being mindful about what we choose to support with our dollars and the statements we make with our actions has an enormous, trickle out effect into the world.
- Avoid over consumption – The “Oh, it’s just one zucchini or half a loaf of bread gone mouldy” mentality is understandable when examined singularly. However, the total sum of these food item discards can amount to a lot of food. Try to value and make use of every little thing!
- Explore proper food storage methods to stop food perishing too fast.
- Visit [www.stilltasty.com](http://www.stilltasty.com) for guidance on product shelf life and [www.eatbydate.com](http://www.eatbydate.com) to delve into the nitty gritty details of how long food *really* lasts for.
- Localization! Support local growers through markets and community product exchange. Apples for Potatoes?
- Develop a home composting system to divert your organic waste from rotting in landfill.
- Become a dumpster diver! Visit your local bins

### References and Information Resources:

- <http://www.fao.org/3/i3347e/i3347e.pdf> (1)
- <http://www.fao.org/3/ca6030en/ca6030en.pdf> (2)
- <https://comparicamp.com/food-waste-statistics/> (3)
- <https://www.wfpusa.org/articles/8-facts-to-know-about-food-waste-and-hunger/#> (4)
- <https://www.samedayrubbishremoval.com.au/War-On-Waste-Statistics.php> (5)
- <https://www.environment.gov.au/protection/waste-resource-recovery/food-waste> (6)
- <https://www.foodbank.org.au/food-rescue-in-australia/2statevic> (7)
- <https://www.foodstandards.gov.au/code/Pages/default.aspx>

### Tasmanian food rescue initiatives -

#### Food Bank:

Australia’s largest food relief organization, Foodbank collects large donations from farmers, manufacturers and retail distribution centres, providing more than 70% of the food rescued for food relief organizations nation-wide.  
[www.foodbank.org.au](http://www.foodbank.org.au)

#### SecondBite:

Works with a range of food suppliers to rescue surplus fresh food from across the network, and redistributes it to local charities and non-profits around Australia, supporting people in need in their communities.  
[www.secondbite.org](http://www.secondbite.org)

#### Loaves & Fishes Tasmania:

Rescues surplus food that would otherwise go to waste, distributing nutritious and fresh food through programs and services, directly benefiting vulnerable Tasmanians.

[www.loavesandfishestasmania.org.au](http://www.loavesandfishestasmania.org.au)

#### Copping Community Care Centre:

A community food pantry offering rescued and donated grocery items to those with a pension or health care card on a donation basis. Everyone welcome!

2186 Arthur Highway, Copping TAS 7174

<https://copping-community-care-centre.business.site/>

#### Food Not Bombs (Hobart):

Offering free, mostly vegan meals prepared by donated food items to whoever needs some tucker. Every Saturday afternoon @ Criterion House, Bathurst St. 4:30-6:30pm.



So....

## Food Waste?



### Food Waste Facts –

Around one-third of the world’s food is lost to waste – or, 1.3 billion tonnes per year – All this wastage in the face of over 8 million people worldwide suffering from hunger and malnutrition. (3)

If global food waste was a country, it would be the third largest greenhouse gas emitter behind China and the US. (5)

Along with chronic poverty, conflict and a lack of resources, food waste is one of the root causes of hunger worldwide. (4)

Each year Australia wastes approximately 7.3 million tonnes of food – this wastage equals about 300kg per person. (6)

The cost of food waste to the Australian economy is estimated to be around \$20 billion each year. (6)

Households/Australian consumers throw away 3.1 million tonnes of food every year. (5)

Australian supermarkets and other retailers send approximately 170k tonnes of food to landfill each year. (5)

There are only 69 councils in Australia that recycle food waste. (5)

Australia produces enough food each year to feed around 60 million people (over twice our population), yet around 4 million people face food insecurity each year. (5)

When food rots in landfill it lets off methane, a greenhouse gas which is 25 times more potent than CO2 produced by cars. (5)

### Wastage along the food supply chain –

**Food loss** – refers to a decrease in mass (dry matter) or nutritional value (quality) of food that was originally intended for human consumption. These losses are mainly by inefficiencies in the food supply chain, such as poor infrastructure and logistics, lack of technology, insufficient skills, knowledge and management capacity of supply chain actors, and lack of access to markets.

**Food waste** – refers to food appropriate for human consumption being discarded. Often this is because food has spoiled but it can be for other reasons such as oversupply due to markets, or individual consumer shopping/eating habits.

**Food wastage** – refers to any food lost by deterioration or waste. Thus, the term “wastage” encompasses both food loss and food waste.

**Food loss and waste occurs and varies along the food supply chain at its different stages...**

#### • Agricultural production -

Causes include inadequate harvesting time, climate conditions, practices applied at harvest and handling, and challenges in marketing produce.

\* More than 500 million tonnes are lost due to crop pests and inefficient harvesting and irrigation, making production a huge source of waste along the cycle.

#### • Postharvest handling and storage -

Adequate cold storage, in particular, can be crucial to prevent quantitative and qualitative food losses. During transportation, good physical infrastructure and efficient trade logistics are of key importance to prevent food losses.

\* Approximately 350 million tonnes are estimated to be lost due to postharvest handling and storage.

\* All in all, approximately 75% of food waste happens at the production, postharvest handling, and storage levels.

#### • Processing -

Processing and packing can play a role in preserving foods, but losses can be caused by inadequate facilities as well as technical malfunction or human error.

\* The top causes of food waste in processing are insects, birds, rodents, moulds, and bacteria.

#### • Distribution -

The causes of food waste at the retail level are linked to limited shelf life, the need for food products to meet aesthetic standards in terms of colour, shape and size, and variability in demand.

\* The top causes of food waste at the retail level include faulty equipment, cutting of produce, and over-ordering.

#### • Consumption -

Consumer waste is often caused by poor purchase and meal planning, excess buying (influenced by over-large portioning and package sizes), confusion over labels (best-before and use by dates) and poor in-home storage.

\* Much of the food waste in developed countries occurs at the consumer level – in comparison, developing countries lose food at the production stage due to inefficient or inadequate facilities, logistics, and agricultural management.

### Understanding item expiration dates -

As of 2016, food labelling in Australia is regulated by the revised ‘Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code’.

**Best before** refers to “the date up to which the food for sale will remain fully marketable and will retain any specific qualities for which express or implied claims have been made, provided it has been stored properly.”

**Use by** refers to “the date after which it is estimated that the food for sale should not be consumed because of health or safety reasons, provided it has been stored properly.” Most expiration dates, regardless of the terminology used, are mostly about the “quality” of the food, as determined by the manufacturer, and rarely have anything to do with the safety or eventual spoilage of that food.

Ultimately, in informing ourselves of food longevity, keeping a sharp eye and nose, and following our intuition instead of over-placing trust on arbitrary labelling, we can save a great deal of perfectly good food.

- Recycling pathways in Tasmania need to be expanded and clearly explained to the public. Cynicism about recycling is common. Tasmanians have demonstrated a commitment to recycling and resource reuse, as long as it is effective and well communicated. Soft plastics recycling (and use of the end products) should be a priority in this Waste ERRP. Small plastic containers and lids (but cumulatively a large volume) such as medication bottles are currently going to landfill.



- Biochar production has a particular combination of co-benefits that are perfectly suited to many applications in Tasmania:
  - Carbon sequestration/drawdown - empowers households and businesses to take an active role in climate mitigation.
  - Bushfire risk minimisation.
  - Weed control – conversion of problem weed feedstock to more valuable biochar.
  - Soil improvement.
  - Innovative business and employment potential in “biochar services”.
  - Community connections around a local council owned biochar kiln.
  - Forestry and tree-logging waste currently producing CO2 from burning could become carbon storing instead, e.g. if dealt with on site with a mobile chipping/biochar kiln and spreader thus reducing transport emissions as well.

Hobart City Councillor Bill Harvey has personally trained many community members in biochar production and use.

The [University of Tasmania Fire Centre](#) may be able to collaborate with the Tasmanian government to develop effective and practical biochar processes. [Capricorn Power](#) is a company currently exploring a novel zero emissions process for powering biochar kilns, and there other innovative technologies evolving as well.

- Support and expand Repair Cafes, Tip Shops and other community led waste reduction initiatives that would benefit from extra resourcing. Including better options for diverting used wood products from demolition will be increasingly feasible as the true cost of timber rises.

## 2. What future opportunities do you think will have the most impact?

- Eliminating food waste

If food waste was a country, it would be the world’s 3<sup>rd</sup> highest GHG emitter according to the [UNFAO](#). Tasmania must develop food waste solutions that reflect the seriousness of this issue that bring the co-benefits of increased food security and circular economy principles.

[Project Drawdown states:](#)

*“Reduced Food Waste can avoid 88.50–102.20 gigatons of carbon dioxide equivalent emissions by 2050.”*

The Climate Change Office understands the sources of food waste across all sectors, so we will not reproduce them here. We recommend that the Waste ERRP include:

- A ban on food waste in primary production, manufacturing, hospitality and food services, institutions and retail. This must be coupled with cost effective solutions that follow the waste hierarchy.
- Support for and expansion of the excellent food recovery model of [Loaves and Fishes](#) with the co-benefits of improving food security, training and more.
- Businesses that generate significant food waste from their policy to provide the full range of fresh food right up to closing time, should be required to donate their food waste to charities. Government support may be required to support this initiative. At the very least, they should be banned from sending

this food to landfill, as commonly happens at present. Increasing landfill levies as is in place now should be bolstered by food dumping bans with compliance monitoring and deterrent level penalties.

- o Supermarkets and other retailers should be encouraged and supported to offer food waste collection points for households.
  - o A commercial food waste ban and recovery stream should be part of a public education campaign. As businesses demonstrate their efforts to eliminate food waste, customers learn the importance of this issue. Options for smaller serving sizes would also support health.
  - o A statewide broad education campaign to bring about a thorough community understanding of the benefits of eliminating food waste.
  - o Work with primary producers to develop and support food waste solutions.
  - o Supporting and expanding initiatives already underway GRANT, Loaves and Fishes, Tip shops, Just Waste Consulting, Neighbourhood House pantries.
- A whole of government approach to the principles in the draft Waste ERRP is important to demonstrate commitment to a circular economy and to lead the way for other sectors to follow. This needs to be in more than words, as this imperative in theory already exists in the Climate Change Act 2021 amendment, but it remains to be seen whether this has any real weight, for example in decisions on forestry.
  - Waste plans are needed for stranded assets and obsolete appliances in the transition to a low emissions economy. In following the waste hierarchy, it is most efficient to avoid these items by preventing them from entering the economy as soon as technically feasible.

An excellent example of this is the single use vaping devices that can cost [\\$10/device](#) to deconstruct into the components requiring different forms of recycling - a problem solved at source by banning importation. Other complex, short-lived items with a mix of plastic/battery/electronics could be identified for bans, a framework requiring recyclability or a recycling levy.

For another example, gas burning appliances (producing high global warming potential methane) should be banned in new builds immediately. This will have the co-benefit of reducing the emissions they will generate prior to their disposal. Septic systems should be replaced by more eco-friendly alternatives as soon as technically possible - rebate incentives could be useful here.
  - Establish reuse and recycling infrastructure for new low emissions technology, as this is being implemented. Full product lifecycle stewardship must be integral to all products and this is easier to implement as these products are being developed. For example, EV batteries should have a clear reuse pathway of repair for EV use, then repurpose for stationary batteries, then resource recovery. This will require changes in regulations to facilitate each stage and support the innovative industries that will develop. Managed and resourced properly, this has significant economic and employment potential. CSIRO published a [report](#) to maximise opportunities in this space. Tasmania's success story, The Good Car Co. have ties with New Zealand's [EVs Enhanced](#) that could be replicated here.

### 3. Are there any priorities or future opportunities missing from this draft plan?

- A realistic understanding of the emissions reduction potential and significant drawbacks of bioenergy.

[Project Drawdown states:](#)

*“Biomass energy is a “bridge” solution—one that can complement wind and solar power until energy storage grows and the grid becomes more flexible. It is crucial to manage the drawbacks of biomass energy through regulation.”*

and

*“When biomass relies on trees, it is not a real solution”*

It is important that biomass energy is only applied when no other option exists. For example, conversion of methane to CO<sub>2</sub> at waste facilities is a reasonable bioenergy source.

We remain unconvinced of the emissions reduction potential of replacing fossil fuel burners with bioenergy solutions. Renewable electrification may be a better solution in many cases.

- Refrigerant hydrofluorocarbons (HFC) are 1000-9000 times greater global warming capacity than CO<sub>2</sub> and are in every refrigeration and air conditioning unit. HFCs must be measured and reported and a management system put in place. We recommend a levy on all new HFC containing appliances to fund practices to avoid leaks and facilitate end of life destruction. Combined with a refund to customers, there would be a good incentive to deal with HFCs

[Project Drawdown states:](#)

*“Practices to avoid leaks from refrigerants and destroy refrigerants at end of life can substantially reduce emissions, both before and after the adoption of alternatives to hydrofluorocarbon refrigerants. Over 30 years, preventing 100 percent of refrigerant leaks that otherwise would be released can avoid emissions equivalent to 57.15 gigatons of carbon dioxide”*

In 2016, world leaders committed to phasing out HFCs and replacing them with natural refrigerants (ammonia, CO<sub>2</sub>, propane and isobutane) under the Kigali Accord. Currently limitations apply only to bulk importation, not in pre-charged units such as fridges and air conditioners, though from July 1, 2024 Australia will [ban the import](#) and manufacture of small air conditioning equipment with high global warming potential (GWP) refrigerant. This is good news, however it will not apply to similar air conditioning equipment that is ducted, for mobile applications such as caravans and boats, or to systems for use in electrical enclosures and computer rooms.

The remaining issue is the disposal of the high GWP refrigerant containing devices and managing those not covered by the new ban. There will be a large number of these items requiring disposal, over many years to come. Yet there is little public information regarding de-gassing these appliances. The [Australian Refrigeration Council](#) seems to be the main organisation that handles reclamation and disposal of refrigerants, however, it does not seem to offer any services in Tasmania.

This issue needs much more community visibility and we would like assurance that these extremely dangerous gases are being correctly destroyed.

Tasmania should work with other states to implement a transition away from HFCs as soon as technically possible. We should not become a dumping ground for polluting old technology because we lag behind in implementing effective legislation or allow

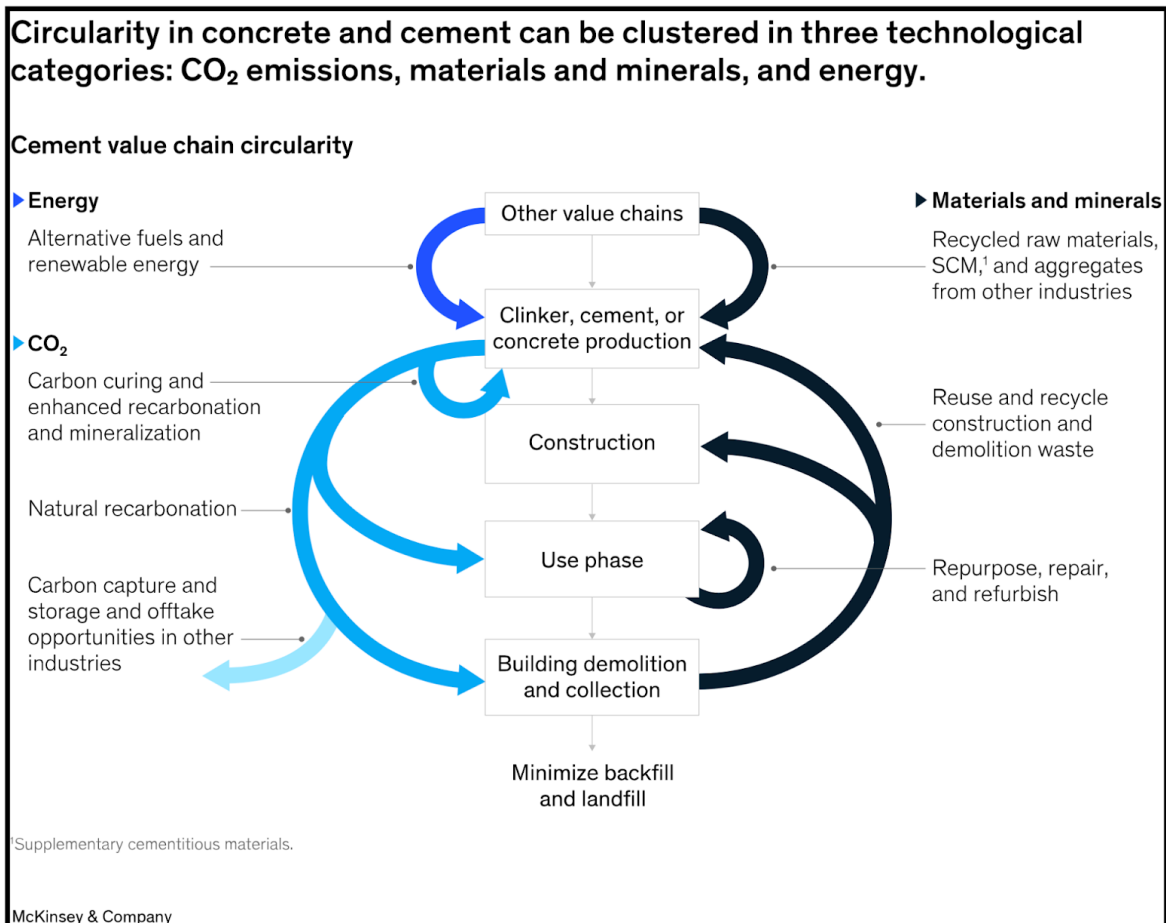


all our old equipment to simply leak all their refrigerants into the atmosphere.

- Identifying and tackling the local and state government regulations that work against or slow emissions reduction and resilience measures – eg. Septic tanks should not be allowed in new builds due to their methane emissions, and new gas connections should be actively discouraged because of the well-established harms to human and planetary health.
- Missed opportunity to tackle construction waste, particularly concrete and cement - which are high emissions products, with existing proven options for recycling.

The waste hierarchy and circular economy principles should be applied to the construction and demolition industries. This will reduce the amount of waste to landfill, make salvaged resources available to Tasmanians and reduce the amount of building material imports.

Construction and demolition waste, including concrete and cement, is consistently a major contributor to Australia's waste stream. In other states, a substantial proportion is recycled or re-used. Cement production is a major emitter - if it was a country, it would be the third largest emitter (very close to food waste) after China and the USA, and demand is going up. This [report](#) demonstrates the benefits of circularity for this resource. Tasmania would benefit from specific initiatives in this area.



The recommendations included in this [report](#) from RMIT University should be considered in Tasmania. In particular:

- *“Recognise that recycled aggregate, when produced to conform to the standard specification criteria, is a technically viable alternative that can be utilised in non-structural and structural concrete elements;*
- *Conduct a life cycle analysis to quantify potential saving from increased durability;*
- *Introduce RCA through precast panels as a quality that can be closely monitored;*
- *Change the industry attitudes towards sustainability-conscious material choices, as inertia towards traditional practices in construction is prevalent;*
- *Improve separation on-site to sort concrete waste material from other C&D waste*
- *Utilise advanced density separation techniques to grade crushed concrete fines to increase homogeneity and reduce the presence of foreign inclusions.”*

#### **4. Are there other ways we can collaborate to reduce emissions and build resilience in the waste sector?**

- Circular economy citizens assembly.

Broad society changes are required to move to a circular economy that follows the Waste Hierarchy in the draft Waste ERRP. The most efficient way to bring everyone along on this transformation is to have the Tasmanian community drive this, rather than have it imposed on us.

Reducing waste is something that appeals to every demographic, across all political persuasions. It is the perfect starting point for community buyin to the circular economy.

Citizens Assemblies have been demonstrated to find solutions to difficult issues. The transition to a zero emissions, circular economy would gain more public support if it was done with us, rather than to us.

- Establish a T-corp system (similar to a [B corp](#)) for Tasmanian businesses and industries that meet measurable waste management, sustainability and circular economy standards. NB this is not a TCC idea (we believe it is the brainchild of Todd Babiak, Brand Tasmania). This would be a powerful way to elevate Tasmanian businesses so that they can profit from their efforts. It would also encourage Tasmanians to support local businesses and keep the economic benefit within the state. Developing a T-corp program in collaboration with the Tasmanian Sustainability Strategy staff in the Dept of Premier and Cabinet may be worthwhile.