

Minister for Energy and Renewables
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10 July 2024

Ms Jacque Petrusma
Member for Franklin
Via Clerk of the House of Assembly
email: laura.ross@parliament.tas.gov.au

Dear Ms Petrusma

I write in response to a question raised in Parliament on behalf of your constituents on 20 June 2024.

The Tasmanian Government is committed to enhancing our circular economy and established the \$3 million Waste Tyre Reprocessing Grant Program to help find sustainable uses for end-of-life tyres in Tasmania. Waste tyres that are illegally dumped or stored can pose a range of risks to our community and environment and is a waste of a useful resource and we know that more effort is needed into this area of resource recovery.

The Tasmanian Government has taken a number of actions to address these problems, by improving the regulation around stockpiling of tyres, and working at the national level to improve product stewardship for tyres. The Waste Tyre Reprocessing Grant Program is another part of the solution. In particular, I was pleased to recently announce that Tyrecycle has been granted \$1.27 million from the Program to upgrade the Barwick's tyre shredding facility at Bridgewater to add a new waste tyre chipper.

End-of-life tyres collected from around Tasmania will be pre-processed using the existing machine at Barwick's and then manufactured into five-centimetre Tyre Derived Fuel (TDF) chips using the new chipper. For the last decade or so in Tasmania, waste tyres have been collected and shredded in Tasmania by Barwick's, but only to a large size, which then required more processing in Melbourne. The upgraded facility at Bridgewater will create a value-added product that can be used as an alternative fuel for coal in a range of industrial processes, such as cement production.

We know that the use of TDF instead of coal can reduce greenhouse gas emissions by up to 30 per cent. Tyrecycle has extensive experience in providing TDF to industry across the world, but they are also committed to providing an "on-island" solution to our tyre waste - and providing TDF to Tasmanian customers once those opportunities are available.

This will help reduce Tasmanian emissions and provide a sustainable use for the 650,000 end-of-life tyres collected each year in our State. I am very happy to see this project going ahead. It is another example of how we are implementing the Tasmanian Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy through strategic investment. It will help to set a pathway for Tasmania to embed circular economy principles across all sectors, and to achieve a more sustainable, low-emissions future.

Thank you again for raising this important matter with me.

Yours sincerely

Hon Nick Duigan MLC
Minister Parks and Environment