



Office of Hon Amy Adams

Member of Parliament for Selwyn

Minister for the Environment

Minister for Communications and Information Technology

Associate Minister for Canterbury Earthquake Recovery

17 OCT 2012

ENV 9354

Buddy Boyd
recycle@gibsonsrecycling.ca

Dear Buddy

Thank you for your email of 7 September 2012 regarding glass recycling at the Te Maunga Resource Recovery Park in Tauranga and your resource recovery operation in Gibsons, British Columbia. I was pleased to hear of your interest in this new glass recycling project and it is encouraging to know that our local recycling initiatives are garnering international attention.

I had the pleasure of launching the new glass recycling project in Tauranga in early September. It is a great example of a territorial authority working with businesses to find a solution for a previously unused resource. Recycling of glass bottles and jars has been happening in Tauranga for some time. However, the operation has expanded and is now recycling flat glass into new products such as home and building insulation, through recycling company 5R Solutions Ltd. If you are interested, you can view my press release online at www.beehive.govt.nz/release/environment-minister-opens-recycling-facility.

The Tauranga City Council and the Glass Packaging Forum helped fund new infrastructure to improve glass collection and sorting at the Resource Recovery Park. The majority of funding came from money that is given to the Council out of the national waste disposal levy.

In New Zealand, the Waste Minimisation Act 2008 introduced a levy of \$10 per tonne (plus GST) on all waste to disposal facilities. The levy is collected by the Government and half is distributed to New Zealand territorial authorities to spend on waste minimisation. The other half (minus administration costs) is made available as a contestable fund to support waste minimisation projects. For more information on the waste disposal levy and the initiatives it is supporting, see www.mfe.govt.nz/issues/waste/waste-disposal-levy/index.html.

I would be more than happy for you to share the story of the Te Maunga Resource Recovery Park at your upcoming conference. I encourage you to contact the parties involved in the project directly for more information. Murray Kliskey (murray.kliskey@tauranga.govt.nz), Solid Waste Operations Engineer at the Tauranga City Council, would be more than happy to assist you.

I would like to commend you on your operation in Gibsons. Communities need more people like you who are willing to drive change and innovation for more efficient use of resources and better waste minimisation outcomes.

Yours sincerely

Hon Amy Adams
Minister for the Environment