

# MEDIA RELEASE

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## RECOVERING ENERGY FROM LANDFILL WASTE MAKES GOOD SENSE FOR TODAY AND TOMORROW

### **Melton City Council's move to recover energy from waste marks a watershed in responsible environmental management by state and local government.**

In a Victorian first, the City of Melton has announced it will be contracting Recovered Energy Australia (REA) and Solo Resource Recovery (Solo) to divert their landfill waste to be processed into electricity, recover reusable resources and protect ratepayers from the rising environmental and economic cost of landfill.

A purpose-built facility at Laverton – capable of processing approximately 240,000 tonnes of waste that would be otherwise sent to landfill every year – will be operational by 2024. The facility will use a well proven gasification technology that does NOT incinerate the waste but converts it into a gas for the production of electricity and the recovery of other valuable resources.

The decision to work with REA and Solo is a tangible illustration of Melton City Council acting to provide a solution that aligns with their strategic environmental plans and with the State Government's landfill diversion policy.

Diverting in excess of 50,000 tonnes of landfill waste annually will mean City of Melton rate payers are helping to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in volumes that equate to planting one million trees every year.

The leading-edge technologies required to make this solution possible are being provided by REA and Solo who, together, have over 90 years of waste and resource recovery experience.

REA Director, Ian Guss, says, "REA and Solo commend Melton City Council for its initiative. Melton should be recognised for being a 'first-mover' in the increasingly urgent need to divert waste from landfill, recover more resources and move towards a circular economy".

Studies show that communities across the state expect real action on the environment and climate change at the local level, like this.

This initiative directly addresses communities' genuine expectation that we must take responsibility for our own environmental impacts and stop leaving our environmental problems to be dealt with by future generations. Innovative solutions like this are a critical step to ensuring our future.

Waste-to-energy facilities will be a critical part of the infrastructure essential to realising a circular economy and improving the environmental and economic outcomes for waste that would otherwise be landfilled.

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## Other facts

- The waste-to-energy gasification plant is being built at Laverton in Melbourne's western suburbs and will be operational by mid-2024. It will have the capacity to deal with some 240,000 tonnes of waste per annum, delivering enough energy to power over 30,000 homes and remove over 220,000 tonnes of CO2 per year from the environment. This is the equivalent of taking almost 100,000 cars off Melbourne roads.
- The plant will create over 400 jobs during construction and provide 40 ongoing jobs through its operations.
- **GASIFICATION IS DIFFERENT TO INCINERATION**  
Gasification technology does not burn waste but operates at extremely high temperatures in a low air environment that converts waste into a gas, similar to natural gas, that is then used to produce high pressure steam and electricity. This technology has met stringent guidelines and has Environment Protection Authority Victoria approval.
- See how it works [www.recoveredenergy.com.au](http://www.recoveredenergy.com.au)

## **About Solo Resource Recovery**

Solo is a 100% Australian owned and operated family company.

Solo provides a diverse range of waste and resource recovery services to Councils, Business and Industry throughout New South Wales, South Australia, Queensland, Victoria and Western Australia. Solo is responsible for over 1.1 million domestic collections per week and services over 10,000 Commercial Customers nationally.

Solo currently services almost one third of the Metropolitan Councils providing municipal collections, resource recovery infrastructure management and community waste services.

Further information can be found at [www.solo.com.au](http://www.solo.com.au)

## **About Recovered Energy Australia P/L**

REA is a Melbourne based company founded and wholly owned by Executives with extensive experience in the development and operation of greenfield renewable energy projects including wind farms and bioenergy projects. REA directors are committed to the delivery of environmentally responsible infrastructure in Victoria.

REA has secured planning approval from the Wyndham City Council and environmental approval from the Victorian EPA to construct the residual waste gasification to energy plant in an industrial precinct at Laverton North in Metropolitan Melbourne.

Further information can be found at [www.recoveredenergy.com.au](http://www.recoveredenergy.com.au)

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