

New recycling services coming to North West Tasmania

Today the new de-packager was commissioned at the Dulverton Waste Management site at Railton. The \$400k machinery will support the many farming and food industry jobs in northern Tasmania by processing food waste into compost, regardless of whether it is in its raw or processed form.

Currently when food processing batches do not achieve standards there is no ready option to remove the food from the packaging and the load ends up in landfill. This is expensive – when measured in both dollars and environmental impact.

As the many food processing businesses across the region work to achieve international best practice; the option to compost wasted production is another step toward this goal. Access to the de-packager will allow the regional food processors to meet zero waste targets set by national retailers.

“The Rockliff Liberal Government is committed to reducing the volume of waste that ends up in landfill and reducing greenhouse gas emissions,” Minister for Environment and Climate Change, Roger Jaensch said.

“Dulverton’s de-packager is a good example of businesses taking advantage of the global move to a circular and low emission economy.

“Initiatives like this support the Tasmanian Liberal Government’s goal to reduce the volume of waste entering landfill and our environment, contribute towards national and state targets to reduce organic waste going to landfill, as well as generate new businesses and jobs for Tasmanians.”

It is expected that 420 tonnes of food waste will be diverted in the current financial year, making savings for our local producers, and significantly reducing the emissions from the landfill.

Mr Gavin Pearce MP, Federal Member for Braddon noted, “Tasmania is leading the way when it comes to Worlds-Best-Practice agriculture and this project is a key part of that. By enabling the return of our food nutrients back to farms in the form of compost, Dulverton has made organic waste an asset, not a liability.”

The machine will ultimately be installed in the new factory currently being built on the Dulverton site, in mid-2024. In the meantime though, the temporary home will allow the benefits of this technology to commence immediately.

The modernisation of composting operations by Dulverton is a \$32M investment in the region that has been made possible by federal and state funding totalling \$9M. The commencement of the operation of the de-packager is the first phase of the new project.

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