

11. RECOVERED MATERIALS FOUNDATION UPDATE

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Corporate Plan Output: Information and Advice to the Council	

This report is to provide a brief summary of the last year's activities for the Recovered Materials Foundation (RMF). The RMF will be producing an annual report similar to its last year once accounts have been audited by KMPG.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 1999/2000 FY

- The RMF processed 12,943 tons of material recovered through kerbside recycling. This represents nearly 26% of the domestic kerbside wastestream that is being diverted from landfill. We are also receiving recyclable materials from 13 other organisations which are either commercial or community groups.
- We have been working with the Waimakariri District Council (WDC) to establish their kerbside-recycling scheme. We anticipated that the RMF would be receiving materials from this recycling scheme in early September. The WDC have also joined the CCC/RMF/Onyx Kerbside Publicity Campaign and will be contributing to the ongoing promotional campaign.
- The RMF site is currently being upgraded to accommodate the increased flows of recyclable materials. We have increasing volumes and additional materials to come from the Christchurch kerbside-recycling scheme, the Waimakariri kerbside scheme coming on stream, more commercial operators are dropping off recyclable material.
- We have identified markets for additional grades of paper that we could collect from the kerbside. These are magazines, gloss paper, office paper and telephone books. More grades will be collected once our new sorting system has consolidated its operation. We are also investigating potential markets for mixed commodity bottle plastics.
- A JV has been established to develop a new processing facility for the paper. This new operation will have an efficient paper sorting system to facilitate the value added processing of mixed paper streams. The new buildings and machinery will be in place in January 2001.
- Established the new *Drive through Recycling* area at the three transfer stations. This operation has numerous options for recyclable and reusable materials drop off. A staff member now meets with customers arriving at the *drive through recycling* area and assists with sorting their trailer for recyclables and reusable materials. This operation was implemented in conjunction with the introduction of *pay by weigh* for domestic waste disposal at the transfer stations.
- The *Shopper Sheds* have been established at the three transfer stations for the resale of reusable items. These operations are an upgrade of the previous selling activities on the transfer stations with a strong focus on a more professional service. These operations are only temporary till the new *Supershed* can be opened.

- Business planning has been completed and approval has been obtained for the new *Supershed*. This is a central selling operation for the reusable items recovered from the transfer stations. The new operation will be able to offer better public access to reuse items, increased the opportunity for items to be reused and offers more employment opportunities. The proposed site is at on the Wastewater treatment site off Pages Rd.
- The RMF has just finished running the Redesigning Resources Conference in Christchurch. We had just over 200 attendees from central government, local government, business, the research sector and community groups. We believe the conference was very successful in advancing the drive for more sustainable outcomes within our environment. Our lead speakers, Paul Hawkins and Ray Andersen, were very inspirational and the ongoing process from the conference will drive the commitments made.
- Sales were \$1.7M this year. This was the result of some new markets, stronger demand for some recyclable materials and some new initiatives.
- The Waste exchange has grown significantly over the past year. We now have 870 companies registered on the database. There has been 781 listing of materials wanted and 646 listing of materials available. We have had 441 successful exchanges to date.
- Our Business Development Fund has made two loans this year. We currently have 10 potential projects that may need funding assistance when they reach the implementation stage.
- The RMF has six development projects that are in progress with eight research projects in progress.

Chairman's

Recommendation: That the information be received.