

Resource Recovery beats incineration



Resource Recovery Centres (RRCs) beat incinerators as a solution for waste in every way: they create way more jobs while serving communities and keeping profits local. They don't pollute & are cheaper to build and maintain.

1 A proposed Incinerator in Te Awamutu is estimated to cost \$200 million. By comparison, a small RRC can be started for \$500,000 and a medium sized RRC costs around \$2 million.

2 For every 10,000 tonnes of waste, an incinerator creates one job; a landfill creates 6, recycling creates 36 and reuse activities a whopping 296 jobs.²

3 In areas with RRCs, recycling rates for households increase significantly because it is easier and more convenient for people to recycle and reuse materials.³

4 Incinerator profits will go overseas to pay off the huge debt and interest. RRCs are owned by the community, so the profits stay in the community for the community.

5 In 2022, New Zealand's recycling and RRCs helped to divert 28% of materials away from landfill.⁴

6 40-50% of landfill waste is building and construction material.⁵ With incineration, disposal of this toxic material is at risk of being burnt, releasing compounds such as arsenic and heavy metals in toxic ash and emissions. MDF board, Melamine/Formica, painted or stained wood can also be mixed in with wood waste and should not be burned.

7 Resource recovery centres engage with more than 100,000 community members every year, providing education and raising awareness about waste minimisation and sustainable practices.

[RRCs divert up to 80+% of materials received through reuse, recycling & composting, programs]¹

1] [Xtreme Zero Waste](#) in Whaingāroa/Raglan.

2] [Briefing on job creation potential in the re-use sector. September 2015.](#) RREUSE. See [rreuse.org](#)

3] [Residents ramp up recycling efforts.](#) 14 Nov 2022. Hamilton City Council.

4] [Government's plans to shake up NZ's inadequate waste recycling.](#) 13 March 2022. Radio NZ.

5] [Sector state of play: Resource recovery and waste.](#) Te Whaihanganga - NZ Infrastructure Commission report.

Let's keep Aotearoa incinerator free

visit: zerowaste.co.nz for more info



**REGENERATION
NOT INCINERATION**