From: rudy ericson

Sent: Tuesday, 23 May 2006 7:05 PM

Subject: Plastic bags

This report on the viability of phasing out plastic bags is grossly irresponsible. You should be ashamed of yourselves. What is it about this economy that preoccupies us so? At its core, it fails to appreciate natural services, local communities, employment, and values of sharing, caring and co-operating. The economic system that is being pushed around the world is highly destructive of the most important things in our lives. And with the steep rise in human numbers, technology is having serious ecological repercussions that can't be stopped by merely tinkering with the social, economic and political structures. We need to shift our priorities to find ways to live more lightly on the planet while ensuring that important human economic and social needs are not compromised. Please reconsider the model you have applied to come to this decision. It sends very destructive messages to the wider community about environmental issues.