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the by-product is more likely diesel that can be used for the transportation industry. This may be evaluated based on the end use of the by-product, cost benefit analysis along with the waste characteristics – segregated or mixed waste. The consultant is also required to evaluate the pollution management technique used. Pollution management through the process cycle is to be monitored and should be in line with the city's prescribed pollution norms imposed by the regulatory authority. Hence, the WTE ecosystem is a technological and scientific process that calls for expertise to ensure best-fit solutions.

As an extension of the project, WTE is fast gaining ground world-wide with concerns on the environment and health hazards due to dumping. Slowly but steadily an ecosystem around WTE is fast building up especially in recycling and re-use. Another important consideration is the efficiencies that can be achieved in generating and managing the by-product – which is energy or biofuel. Energy generation from waste can be made a low cost option with the selection/management of appropriate methods.

Sweden: Where Waste is Wealth

Sweden is the best example for creating a thriving waste management industry. Profitable businesses are built around recycling and re-use of waste. 99 per cent of all household waste is reused, recycled or composted. 50% of household waste is incinerated to produce energy. Metal is separated from the burnt ash and recycled. Balance of the ash with material that cannot be burnt such as porcelain, tiles, etc., are used as gravel for road construction.

Typically, recycling stations are within 300 metres from any residential area. People separate all recyclable waste in their homes and deposit it in special containers in their block of flats or drop it off at a recycling station. (Saves waste transportation costs.)

There are 32 plants in Sweden that produce heat for 810,000 households and electricity for 250,000 private houses. Heavy metal emissions have been reduced by 99 per cent since 1985, even though Sweden emits three times more waste today. Total waste dumped is now reduced to just 1%. The smoke from incineration plants consists of 99.9 per cent non-toxic carbon dioxide and water, but is still filtered through dry filters. The dry filters are deposited and the sludge from the dirty filter water is used to refill abandoned mines. Now Sweden is targeting zero waste.