

**From:** [Transforming Recycling](#)  
**To:** [brett@klicimports.com.au](mailto:brett@klicimports.com.au)  
**Cc:** [Transforming Recycling](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Fjord Paper - Barrier Paper  
**Date:** Tuesday, 2 April 2024 3:25:00 pm  
**Attachments:** [image002.png](#)  
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Kia ora Brett,

The gazette notice and guidelines set out which broad categories of materials must be accepted in local government household kerbside recycling collections. You are right that they do not provide the level of detail for whether specific types of materials within a category are practically 'recyclable' within New Zealand.

About half of New Zealand's paper is recycled onshore. Our mills are small and old by international standards and do not have some technology that allow larger more modern mills to process a wider range of papers. [Oji Fibre Solutions](#) operate the two mills that process the vast majority of our paper recycled within New Zealand. You can contact Oji to find out if your barrier paper is repulpable in their mills.

The other half of our paper is exported and sold into international recycling markets. The bales need to meet [ISRI scrap specifications](#). Companies such as [Regroup](#), [Waste Management](#), and [EcoCentral](#) are the larger exporters of kerbside paper in New Zealand and may be able to tell you if your barrier paper would meet their market specifications.

I would note that the water-base used to apply your barrier coating is not an issue. It evaporates leaving behind the polymer(s) – plastic(s), that provide the barrier properties. Your paper is heat sealable which suggests to me that there is sufficient polymer embedded in it to act as a glue when heated. This level of plastic in the fibre may cause issues at a repulping mill. The base is unimportant to a papers recyclability, but recyclers are likely to want to know the amount, and potentially type of polymer(s) added.

Ngā mihi,

**Harry Livesey (he/him)**

*Senior Policy Analyst | Kaitātari Kaupapa Here Matua  
Kerbside improvement and food waste policy*

Ministry for the Environment | Manatū Mō Te Taiao  
022 307 4726 [harry.livesey@mfe.govt.nz](mailto:harry.livesey@mfe.govt.nz) | [mfe.govt.nz](https://mfe.govt.nz)

*Ministry staff work flexibly by default. For me, this means I usually work Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday.*





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**From:** brett@klicimports.com.au <brett@klicimports.com.au>

**Sent:** Thursday, March 28, 2024 6:30 PM

**To:** Transforming Recycling <TransformingRecycling@mfe.govt.nz>

**Subject:** Fjord Paper - Barrier Paper

**MFE CYBER SECURITY WARNING**

This email originated from outside our organisation. Please take extra care when clicking on any links or opening any attachments.

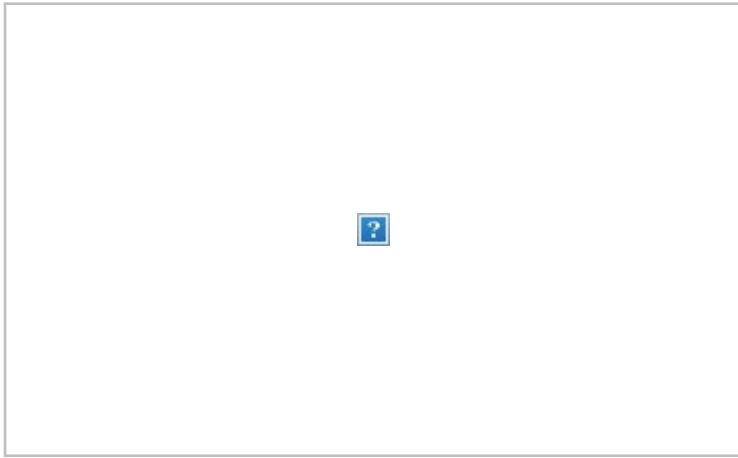
Hello Harry,

I spoke to one of your colleagues earlier today and she said to send through an email regarding my enquiry.

My name is Brett Imberger and I the Asia-Pacific agent for a German paper mill called Fjord Paper Flensburg GmbH. Fjord produces Barrier papers that are used in packaging industry. The barrier papers consist of a base paper plus the addition of a Waterbased coating to provide protection to the food/contents of the packaging.

<https://www.fjordpaperflensburg.de/en/product-lines/fjord-pak>

Given the recent overhaul of NZ's Kerbside recycling rules we are seeking clarification if our paper would be classified as recyclable through kerbside collection? The guidelines on your website do not specifically mention coated papers. A quick summary of the properties of our barrier papers are as follows.



Attached is a spec sheet of each type of barrier we offer, MGO and WG. If you need to see samples or have further questions about the coatings on our paper please let me know.

Kind Regards

Brett Imberger  
General Manager

