

PAROS MUST REGAIN CONTROL OF ITS WASTE

From landfill failure to a lawful zero-waste system

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Founder of KLEA — under incorporation

Not here merely to complain. Allow me to present myself.

A second resident of Aghia Irini. A civil engineer. A citizen who considers Paros part of his home, considering the situation to act as a responsible citizen

- A professional lifetime solving environmental and public-infrastructure problems.
- Prepared to contribute without seeking office, contracts or personal advantage.
- KLEA is being created as an independent Aarhus-based environmental accountability NGO.

WHY NOW?

The landfill fire revealed a system no longer under control.

Nobody appears willing to take responsibility for correcting it.

This is a field I know

>15 Millions

tonnes of waste managed

>5

material recovery facilities built & operated

2

RDF plants built & managed

6

waste-to-energy plants built and/or operated

2 / 5

landfills operated / in post-closure care

>150,000

water distribution connections built

>250,000 m³/day

drinking-water capacity managed

>500,000 m³/day

wastewater capacity built, financed, managed

>30

Directorships in environmental/construction companies and public authorities

I know what a properly managed waste system looks like. What is happening in Paros is not one.

Also delivered: 5 PPPs and 2 BOOTs (design–build–finance–operate); director to 5 PPPs; advisor to 3 Belgian intermunicipal utilities.

The fire was the alarm — not the problem

The fire exposed a system already failing.

- Deficient landfill operation
- Ineffective supervision, a substandard permit
- Temporary storage becoming permanent disorder
- Unclear division of responsibility
- Administrative tolerance of irregular practices

A fire can be an accident.

**The conditions that
made it possible are
not.**

Essential landfill disciplines appear to be missing

- No credible daily-cell requirements
- Insufficient waste characterisation
- Inadequate leachate monitoring
- Inadequate gas collection
- Weak operational reporting
- No effective weighbridge obligation
- Unrealistic extension concept
- Inappropriate storage of recyclables

These are not minor imperfections. They indicate systemic operating failure.

Legality totally neglected

Six legality conditions not met :

- environmental permit not covering actual operations
- works and operation not backed by building permit (>0,8 m profile change)
- excavations and embankments never properly authorised
- recyclable storage unlawful
- fire-protection duties not observed
- monitoring and reporting conditions below standard

**NO
PERMIT?**

**STOP
OR
REGULARISE**

Political convenience cannot replace legality.

Nothing Stops the Mayor From Acting Now

A STATE OBLIGATION

Article 24 of the Greek Constitution enshrines environmental protection as a duty of the State toward every citizen.

ECHR Articles 2 & 8 — settled case law links prolonged exposure to a documented, untreated environmental risk to violations of the right to life and to private/family life.

When the State durably shirks this duty, the Municipality is obliged — not merely permitted — to act, on a subsidiary, protective basis.

TESOPP — the crisis unit already exists

Art. 12, L. 4662/2020, grounded in the Mayor's civil-protection powers (Art. 58Δ, L. 3852/2010). Chaired by the Mayor — not a new structure, an existing one to activate.

Emergency staff

Art. 206, L. 3584/2007 — fixed-term recruitment of any specialty, outside the standard ASEP procedure, for urgent needs.

Emergency contracts

Art. 32§2(c), L. 4412/2016 — negotiated procedure without prior publication where extreme, unforeseeable urgency applies.

DEYAP's legal limit

Cannot act as waste operator under L. 1069/1980 — billing and invoicing only, not operations.

This is not a theoretical hypothesis: it is a power the Mayor already holds, and simply needs to exercise.

FODSA's failure does not relieve Paros of its duties

CURRENT ATTITUDE

**“FODSA handles treatment.
Paros must wait.”**

CORRECT POSITION

**Paros retains responsibility for
prevention, reuse, separate
collection, local facilities and
municipal planning.**

Municipal freedom to act must be used — not treated as an excuse to do nothing.

Responsibilities are divided. They have not disappeared.

MUNICIPALITY	FODSA SOUTH AEGEAN	PRIVATE OPERATOR
■ Prevention and reuse ■ Collection and sorting ■ Local facilities ■ Public information	■ Regional infrastructure ■ Landfill management ■ Procurement ■ Operator supervision	■ Daily compliance ■ Waste recording ■ Covering and safety ■ Incident reporting

Outsourcing operations does not outsource public responsibility.

Paros has failed to use the powers it already has

- No effective municipal waste plan since 2016. A new one announced in 2020, but not published.
- No structural waste-prevention or reuse programme.
- Green Points contracted (€954k) and partly built (€638k) — then delisted from its funding programme. Seemingly forgotten.
- And pointless standing alone: without an MRF behind it, a green point just relocates the problem.
- No effective response to missing recycling outlets.
- Citizens separate recyclables that are ultimately landfilled. It is a true example of environmental crime.

**Sorting waste
and then
landfilling it**

is not recycling.

IT IS DECEPTION.

Waste management costs money — mismanagement costs more

A lawful system requires transparent costs and fair incentives.

- Prevention, sorting, recycling and lawful disposal have real costs.
- Households and businesses that prevent and separate waste should benefit.
- Collected via prepaid bags or a charge on the water bill; resale of sorted recyclables adds revenue.
- EU/national subsidies, packaging and WEEE compliance-scheme recovery, and the reallocated environmental resilience fee complete the picture.

ZERO WASTE IS NOT FREE.

Denial, fires, illegality and emergency disposal cost far more — and the operator's own civil liability for the fire will be pursued too.

FODSA is part of the problem

- Insufficient own technical capacity
- Heavy reliance on private procurement
- Weak visible control of site conditions
- Failure to guarantee outlets for recyclables
- Repeated concentration with WATT to be disclosed
- DBFM may freeze an RDF-centred model, traps FODSAS to consider only one RDF offtaker
- RDF is defensible — but not zero (landfill) waste – conflicts hence with EC ban on landfill by 2030_35
- Fire responsibility makes FODSAS responsible for damage compensation, but it does not take up its responsibility

FODSA cannot remain an absent contracting authority.

Let us call the situation what it is: governmental failure

LACK OF COMPETENCE

LACK OF RESOURCES

PROLONGED INACTION

FRAGMENTED DUTIES

WEAK SUPERVISION

TOLERANCE OF IRREGULARITY

It is not simply “Athens” that has failed.

Paros and the South Aegean have failed at their own level.

This is no longer hypothetical: the Mayor and the deputy mayor for cleanliness have already been taken into custody and questioned by the Syros prosecutor over the fire. That proceeding runs on its own track — KLEA's interest is making sure the next twelve months don't produce a repeat.

Litigation will not empty the landfill

KLEA will not ignore serious illegality.

- Responsibilities must be investigated and individualised.
- Those who authorised, executed, facilitated, covered or knowingly ignored irregularities may be exposed.
- But condemning past failures will not create a functioning system.

THE QUESTION

**How does
Paros get out
of this?**

Three steps to regain control

1

ADMIT THE FAILURE

Mea culpa. Never again.

2

CREATE A CRISIS GROUP

Independent experts. 15 days.

3

DECIDE — THEN DO IT

Restore legality and control in six months.

No further study without execution.

How the Crisis Group Will Work

1

TIMING

Convene within days — experts and hands-on operators, not committee regulars.

2

DELIVERABLE

A concrete Masterplan within 15 days — not another study.

3

HORIZON

Legality and normality restored within six months — a fixed, public deadline.

4

STRUCTURE

A dedicated municipal vehicle — its first job: take over the stalled Green Points project.

5

DISCIPLINE

Radical but fair. No half-measures. Politics stays out of the room.

6

STARTING POINT

KLEA's own proposals, submitted as a fast working draft — not a finished blueprint.

This is the operating discipline for Step 2 — not a wish list.

The doctor cannot be part of the illness

“When a person is seriously ill, the family does not decide the therapy. The people who contributed to the illness do not appoint themselves as doctors.”

**Independent experts
establish the diagnosis
and prescribe the
treatment.**

Officials involved in past failures
provide information and comments
— but do not control the diagnosis.

Be radical but fair. Keep politics out. No wishy-washy compromise.

Waste needs its own DEYAP

Create a competent, accountable municipal waste vehicle — working name: KYKLA.



- Professional management
- Takes over the stalled Green Points project as an MRF intake point
- Transparent FODSA contracting
- Weighing, data and invoicing
- Polluter-pays tariffs
- Revenue from materials and energy
- Subsidies and external financing
- Public performance reporting

Politics sets the objective. Competent management delivers it.

A Complete Scheme — Achievable in Under Six Months

1

Materials Recovery Facility

Central sorting at the old airport site.

2

Composting units

Kitchen, garden waste & sewage sludge.

3

Construction waste & soil bank

Recover stone, soil, aggregates.

4

Drop-off & take-back points

Packaging, WEEE, bulky, hazardous waste.

5

Access-controlled collection

Badge containers; penalised wild dumping.

6

Home-composting requirement

Island-wide for rural properties.

7

Obligation to clear pollution

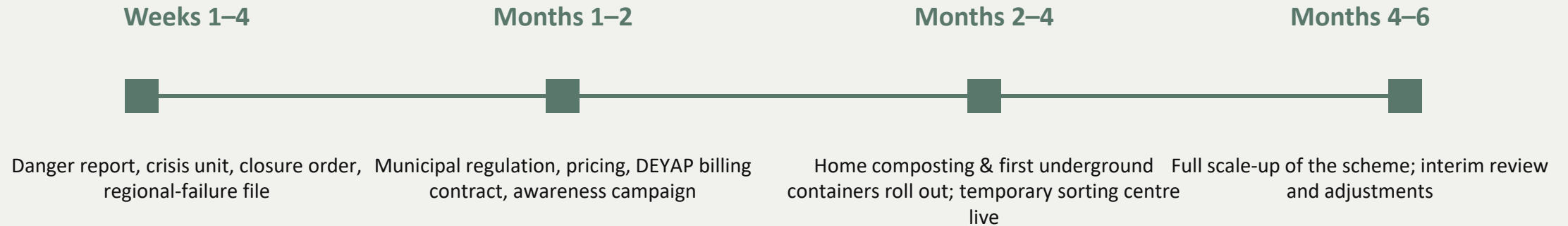
Every landowner clears their own plot.

8

Incentive-based charging

Fixed + variable, polluter pays.

Under Six Months — Not a Wish, a Duty



This strategy would position Paros as a reference point among the Cyclades for the circular economy and sustainable island waste management.

KLEA has prepared the groundwork

[Landfill legality](#)

[Emergency compliance](#)

[Waste flows](#)

[Prevention and reuse](#)

[Separate collection](#)

[Green points](#)

[Organic waste](#)

[Commercial waste](#)

[Sorting and baling](#)

[RDF and residues](#)

[Landfill rehabilitation](#)

[Tariffs](#)

KYKLA governance

Six-month plan

Detailed technical, legal, institutional and financial presentations form the documentation package for the crisis group.

We are sufficiently prepared to begin work now.

Existing Contributions, Ready to Use

Filed alongside this presentation. Click a title to open it (keep all files in this same folder).

[Landfill Closure Manifesto](#)

The original technical, legal and financial case for closure.

[Letter to the Mayor](#)

The open letter as sent, 7 August 2026.

[Bill for Complacency \(EN\)](#)

Fire damages, liability, and the cost of further delay.

[Recycling Collapse — Article](#)

The Kostos MRF investigation, public-facing.

[KYKLA Legal Vehicle Memo](#)

Recommended incorporation route for ΚΥΚΛΑ ΠΑΡΟΥ Α.Ε.

[KYKLA Airport West-Zone MRF Concept](#)

Siting and concept design for the sorting centre.

[KYKLA B / A2 Permitting Strategy](#)

The two-track legal path to build without waiting.

[KYKLA VAT & Residual-Pricing Memo](#)

How municipal support and commercial pricing combine, within the law.

Eight documents. All cross-referenced. All ready for the Crisis Group on day one.

Three decisions. Not another discussion.

- 1 Acknowledge that the situation is unacceptable.
- 2 Convene an independent crisis group immediately.
- 3 Give it 15 days to submit a plan restoring legality and control within six months.

The fire was the last warning. It must now become the turning point.

Where there is a will, there is a way.