CLAIMS:

We claim:

1. A process comprising steps of,

mixing water with solid waste in an amount of at least 50% water by mass per unit mass of solid waste; and,

pressing the resulting mixture at a pressure of at least 50 bar in an extrusion chamber.

2. The process of claim 1 wherein the solid waste is fines from a material recovery facility.

3. The process of claim 2 wherein the fines pass through a rectangular opening that is 51 mm or less on each side, or a round opening of 51 mm or less in diameter.

4. The process of any preceding claims where the solid waste comprises at least 25% organic material by dry mass.

5. The process of any preceding claim wherein the water and solid waste are mixed for at least 15 minutes.

6. The process of any preceding claim wherein one or more walls of the extrusion chamber has holes with an area equal to the area of a circle with a diameter in a range of 4 mm to 20 mm.

7. A system for treating solid waste comprising

a mixer,

a supply of water and

a high pressure extrusion press,

wherein the mixer mixes water with the solid waste in an amount of at least 50% water by mass per unit mass of solid waste.

8. The system of claim 7 wherein the mixer is connected to the supply of water and the press is downstream of the mixer.

9. The system of claim 7 or 8 further comprising a material recovery facility adapted to produce fines from solid waste, wherein the mixer receives the fines.