CLAIMS:

We claim:

1. A process comprising steps of,

mixing water with solid waste comprising fines 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 have a size and shape that allows the fines to 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 wherein 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 fines, the system comprising

a mixer,

a supply of water and

a high pressure extrusion press configured to exert a pressure of at least 50 bar on a mixture of the solid waste and the water from the mixer,

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.

10. The system of any one of claims 7-9 further comprising a screen or trammel having a rectangular opening of 51 mm or less on each side, or a round opening of 51 mm or less in diameter, wherein the screen or trammel unders outlet is in communication with the mixer.

11. The system of any one of claims 7-10 wherein one or more walls of the extrusion press has holes with an area equal to the area of a circle with a diameter in a range of 4 mm to 20 mm.

12. The system of any one of claims 7-11 wherein the extrusion press exerts a pressure of at least 150 bar on the mixture.

13. The process of claim 3 wherein the fines comprise organic material and inert matter.

14. The process of claim 3 or 13 wherein the fines are from a material recovery facility.

15. The process of any one of claims 1-6, 13, and 14 wherein the step of pressing the resulting mixture is at a pressure of at least 150 bar.

16. The process of any one of claims 1-6, 13, 14, and 15 wherein the step of pressing comprises compressing the resulting mixture through holes in one or more walls of the extrusion chamber.