

# **RECYCLING: NOT JUST A FEEL-GOOD ACT BUT A GREEN JOBS ENGINE**

**CELIA PETTY**

*Deputy Director, Waste and Recycling Division  
International Brotherhood of Teamsters\**

## **ABSTRACT**

The U.S. needs to recycle its outdated recycling industry. It can bring good well-paying jobs, reduce harmful gas emissions, and energize markets and local economies. The U.S. recycles only a third of its wastes; even so, with 1.1 million employees, it grosses \$236 billion a year. But now it must transform the operation into a resource recovery infrastructure.