

INFORMATION BULLETIN

Issue 104

August 2007

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REGISTER NOW! - W&R 2007



Planning in an Uncertain Climate:
A Delicate Balancing Act?

Registration Brochures and Programmes for the Waste & Recycle 2007 Conference, are now available!

The Conference runs from **10-14 September 2007** and will be held at the Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle. A week packed full of waste management related fun is planned.

On the Monday, a Ministerial

Waste Summit is being held. The Ministerial Waste Summit—*Partnering for Success: The Road to Best Practice*, will focus on measures to define best practice, the strategic barriers to achieving best practice and how can State and Local Government work together to over the barriers.

Tuesday has many thrills with Compost WA holding a market development workshop and the Young Professionals presenting their view of the world. Also on Tuesday will be a session hosted by the Office of Climate Change, facilitated by

Chantell Illbury, focusing on waste, consumerism and climate change. On Wednesday, Thursday and Friday there will be a mixture of site visits, workshops and high quality international and local speakers.

There are still opportunities for sponsorship available and the External Exhibition is your chance to see (or showcase your own) big toys from the waste industry.

For more information visit www.wasteandrecycle.com.au

INDUSTRY KEEN TO CRUSH CDS?

In *The West Australian* (11/08/07) Coca-Cola Amatil, Fosters and Lion Nathan are reported to have told Minister Templeman that they would help bankroll a glass recycling plant in WA if the Government abandons any plans for a container deposit system for WA.

The paper erroneously reported that the three companies have the support of the National Packaging Covenant Council (NPCC). The NPCC (of which the WA Local Government Association is a member) has not discussed the proposed

glass crushing plant. Mr Ed Cordner, CEO of the NPC said regarding the proposal "This wouldn't appear to be a decision the NPCC needs to be involved in as it is really a matter between the companies involved and the WA State Government. The matter will definitely be discussed at the Council meeting next week, as the companies are members of the NPC, but no Covenant funds have been committed".

The response from Minister Templeman on the proposal was that the glass crushing plant would be considered on

its merits but would not affect the decision on container deposits. Minister Templeman also added "It is difficult to see how the proposal would reduce litter or improve recycling rates without an incentive, such as a deposit, to return containers for recycling. A glass crushing facility would not contribute to improving WA's low recycling rates for plastic containers and aluminium cans."

The WA Local Government Policy Statement on CDS is available from www.wastenet.net.au



MORE ORGANIC THOUGHTS?

The draft Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA) Policy Statement and Background Paper on Standards for Recycled Organics Applied to Land is out for further comment.

Background Paper have been updated. The Policy Statement is intended to assist with the development of long-term, sustainable markets for the application of recycled organics to land.

September 2007. For more information contact Megan Graham on 9213 2086 or email mgraham@walga.asn.au

The updated Policy Statement and Background Paper are available from the WasteNet website www.wastenet.net.au

Thank you to all who provided feedback on the initial draft. In response to this feedback the Policy Statement and

Any additional comments on the draft Policy Statement or background paper should be provided by **COB Monday 24**

Bannister Downs Farm offers its Farm Fresh Milk product in Ecolean packaging. Ecolean is similar in composition to an eggshell, consisting of mainly chalk and binding agent, making it biodegradable.



For more information visit www.bannisterdowns.com.au

OIL—PRAYING FOR A DROUGHT

In February 2007, the 57 Local Governments Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC) undertook a survey on used oil collection infrastructure in WA.

To gauge the current status/capacity of Local Government used oil storage, in July 2007, MWAC carried out the survey again.



responded to the survey. Almost 20% of respondents are not receiving collections from their used oil collector and a further 15% are receiving infrequent or random collections.

pressure on the Federal Government for financial assistance. MWAC will be sending further correspondence to the Federal Government on this matter, as well as, working with the State Government.

The results of the survey further highlight the need for Local Government

For more information contact Rebecca Brown on 9213 2063 or email rbrown@walga.asn.au

'GIFTS' FROM THE NPC

The National Packaging Covenant (NPC) has called for Expressions of Interest (Eoi) in its latest funding round. There is \$6 million available for projects.

Projects must divert substantial additional tonnes

of packaging for recycling per year, through improved collection or reprocessing. All WA Local Governments are eligible to apply, as they are signatories of the Covenant through the Western Australian Local Government Association. Expressions of Interest must be

submitted by **5pm Friday 14 September 2007.**

For more information visit www.packagingcovenant.org.au or contact the Project Coordinator, Reuben Gregor on 6467 5391 or email reuben.gregor@dec.wa.gov.au

CHANGE OF GUARD



MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL
"Getting The Environment Right"

Officers Advisory Group—new additions and welcome returns

Brendan Mohr (Shire of Augusta-Maragaret River), Eddy Albrecht (City of Stirling), Adrian Dyson (Shire of Mundaring), Sebastian Camillo

(City of South Perth), Peter Hoar (City of Joondalup and Kyle Boardman (City of Mandurah) have been appointed as Officers at Large to the Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC).

The Officers will serve a term from August 2007 to August 2008.

MWAC would like extend a warm welcome to the Officers.

Furthermore, MWAC would like to thank previous serving Officers Klaus Mueller, Ken Goldsworthy and Viet Nysen for their hard work and effective input whilst on the Council.

New Project Coordinator

Shelley Inglis has been appointed to the role of MWAC Project Coordinator. Shelley has been acting in the role for the past six months.

EXAMINING HOLE CAPACITY

Correspondence has been received from the Waste Management Board on metropolitan landfill capacity. This is in response to a letter sent by the Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC) outlining the critical shortage in landfill capacity, both now (in the event of an

emergency) and into the future, as shown in the metropolitan landfill survey conducted by MWAC.

The Board has recognised the significance of the issue and have invited Local Government representatives to join the Board in discussing this issue.

The Officers Advisory Group Chair (Kevin Poynton), MWAC Executive Officer (Rebecca Brown) and Stuart McAll (SMRC) have been nominated.

For more information please contact Rebecca Brown on 9213 2063.

CLIMATE CHANGING PARTNERSHIP

The Western Australian Local Government Association and WA State Government have signed a Climate Change and Sustainability Partnership Agreement.

The Agreement will deliver mutual policies on the climate change and sustainability agenda at both a State and local level.

The Agreement was

confirmed at a Climate Change Workshop at the 2007 Local Government Convention.

Also presenting at this workshop was Councillor Doug Thompson on the Southern Metropolitan Regional Council (SMRC) Carbon abatement project from their Regional Resource Recovery Centre (RRRC). Cr Thompson was asked to present at the workshop to illustrate the

significant role that waste management can play in offsetting carbon emissions and mitigating climate change.

For more information on the Partnership Agreement please visit www.walga.asn.au

For more information on SMRC activities visit www.smrc.com.au

LIGHTS ARE ON?

In response to concerns MWAC raised regarding the end of life management of compact fluorescent bulbs, correspondence has been received from Hon. Malcolm Turnbull, Federal Minister for the Environment and Water Resources. The Minister

indicated that the Environment Protection Heritage Council (EPHC) have agreed to investigate the end-of-life management of the fluorescent lamps.

Currently they are gathering information from industry and

government stakeholders to determine if there is a need for a national measures, such as recycling scheme for the bulbs.

For more information please contact Shelley Inglis on 9213 2062.

FED'S SQUASH PC REPORT

The Federal Government has released a response to the Productivity Commission Report on Waste Management.

The response largely aligned with the Municipal Waste

Advisory Council (MWAC) response to the report. A key point in the Federal response was rejection of the Productivity Commission's thrust that waste management policy should not be used to promote resource efficiency.

The Federal response can be accessed from www.wmaa.asn.au

MWAC's response can be accessed from www.wastenet.net.au

TOWARDS THE PERFECT LOGO

The Waste Management Board has endorsed minor alterations to its promotional



logo in a bid to reinforce the State's existing vision of *Towards Zero Waste*.

A nationwide survey in the US found that 72% of the American public does not know that conventional plastic is made from petroleum products and 40% believes it will biodegrade. On average those surveyed believe nearly 40% of plastic is recycled, when that figure is less than 6%.



(Source: Waste Streams, June/ July 2007)

Sainsburys supermarkets in the UK are trialling the sale of wine in recyclable plastic bottles. They believe it will cut down the bottle's weight, and associated carbon emissions.



(Source: The Guardian, 26 July 2007)

UP IN FLAMES

The Waste Management Association of Australia (WMAA) recently hosted a National Energy from Waste Conference in Manly Beach, Sydney to explore the potential of sustainable energy recovery from waste.

The Conference focused on the benefits and issues associated with the adoption of such technology;

particularly in terms of reducing carbon emissions and gaining public acceptance based on the European experience.

The major outcome of the conference was a general agreement from participants to lobby for an all-of-government undertaking, coordinated from the Federal level, to explore the place of energy recovery in a national waste management

and energy efficiency strategy.

If you would like further information on the conference, please contact Megan Graham on 9213 2086 or email mgraham@walga.asn.au

GAS REDUCTION THE KEY

According to a report commissioned by SITA Environmental Solutions and compiled Warnken ISE, the waste industry could reduce Australia's net greenhouse emissions by 6.7%, some 38 million tonnes of CO₂e.

Improving gas capture at existing landfills could cut emissions from historic waste by 8,500 tonnes/year, says the report, while not landfilling biodegradable material in the future would save 13,600 tonnes/year.

Recovering the embodied energy in recycled products would also be significant, saving 11,000 tonnes.

(Source: Inside Waste, March/April 2007)

GOING GREEN IN VICTORIA

Recycling Upgrade

Sustainability Victoria has awarded Bendigo Council \$350,000 to help improve the recycling facilities at its Eaglehawk landfill site.

It is expected that the \$1 million upgrade will increase the recovery of recyclable material by 2,000 tonnes a year.

The upgrade will allow a relocation of the Resources Recovery facility and recycle shop so that community

members will be able to recycle their waste before passing over the weigh bridge.

This will encourage community members to recycle as they will now only pay for material going to landfill.

(Source: Environmental Management News, 10 July 2007)

ECO-Buy

Victorian program ECO-Buy, originally created to encourage Local Government to purchase environmentally friendly

products, has now expanded its membership to state government and businesses.

The program, originally run by the Victorian Government, has been responsible for \$80 million worth of green product purchases throughout the state.

For more information visit www.ecobuy.org.au

(Source: Environmental Management News, 16 July 2007)

MORE MUSTERING NEEDED?

A survey by the Total Environment Centre (TEC) of Sydney mobile phone retailers has found fewer than 20% of retailers participated the Australian Mobile Telecommunications Association (AMTA) 'Mobile Muster' program and only 8% had a visible recycling bin.

The AMTA claim that since Mobile Muster was launched, awareness of mobile phone recycling had increased from 46% in March 2005 to 79% in June 2007, while collections increased by 72% in the past 12 months, from 50 tonnes to 86 tonnes.



However, TEC claims that AMTA relied on the increase in the rate of recycling of phones discarded (from 19% to 30%), but what counted was how many of all the mobiles sold were actually recycled.

(Source: Environmental Management News, 31 July 2007)

UK FILLING UP

Landfill Capacity

Whilst demand for landfill in the UK is reducing due to more recycling and new incinerators, recent research suggests the amount of available landfill space may be decreasing faster than the drop in demand for landfill.

Just a fifth of UK annual landfill needs were replaced in 2006 by newly consented landfill capacity. Environment Agency figures suggest London and the East of England had just three to four years' capacity remaining at sites, while landfill life expectancy in other regions ranged from 6 to 9 years.

(Source: www.letsrecycle.com.au)

Tyre Recycling

The largest tyre recycler in the UK, Credential Environmental, has started a contract to send tyres to a Buxton cement kiln.

The deal will see Credential supplying up to 30,000 tonnes of tyre chip a year to the plant, which is almost a quarter of tyres handled by Credential and a third of the fuel used by the kiln.

The contract agreement follows almost nine months of trials at the Buxton kiln which Credential says met all of the "critical success factors" set by the Environment Agency.

(Source: www.letsrecycle.com.au)

Markets for Paper

A new report containing analysis of the market for recovered paper has been published by the Waste and Resource Action Program (WRAP).

The report contains a special focus section that examines the current drivers of the future outlook in the global market for recovered fibre.

For more information visit www.wrap.org.uk

(Source: www.wrap.org.uk)



Above: Ancient Roman Emperor Brendan Mohr, newly appointed Officer to the Municipal Waste Advisory Council.

'BAG IT BACK'

A deposit-return system for liquor and wine bottles has been launched in Ontario Canada.



Under 'Bag it Back', consumers will be charged a 10 to 20 cent deposit, depending on the product and size, which will be

refunded at beer store outlets.

(Source: Inside Waste, March/April 2007)

JAPAN NOT WASTING ENERGY

PC Recycling

The PC 3R Promotion Centre in Japan have reported that 310,864 used personal computers and PC monitors were collected from households in 2006, up 7 percent from the previous year. The Law for Promotion of Effective Utilization of Recyclable Resources, enforced in 2001, requires PC manufacturers to collect and

recycle used PCs from the date of enforcement for business use and from 2003 for home use.

(Source: www.japanfs.org)

Waste to Energy

Kyoto City in Japan have announced the completion of Japan's first successful series of trials producing hydrogen from biomass, such as food waste and used cooking oil, for

use in fuel cells that produce electricity. One ton of waste could generate 250 kWh of electricity, equivalent to one day of power consumption by 25 households. The trials have revealed that a stable supply of electricity is possible even when household waste is only roughly separated.

(Source: www.japanfs.org)

REEF ROADRAGE

Local authorities are attempting to retrieve 700,000 tyres dumped off the coast of Fort Lauderdale in the US.

Millions of tyres, usually bundled with nylon straps or steel cables, were put into

the sea off Australia, New Zealand, Malaysia and the US.

The tyres were meant to provide a habitat for marine life whilst

disposing of tyres but in the rugged and corrosive environment of the ocean the



tyres broke free, migrated shoreward, ran into a living reef and killed everything in their path. Divers have pulled up 10,373 tyres so far.

(Source: www.uk.news.yahoo.com)

MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL

Next Meeting

Date: 22 August 2007

Time: 4.00 pm

Venue: Local Government House

Check out the WA Local Government
Association Website at www.walga.asn.au



Visit WasteNet www.wastenet.net.au

CONTACT DETAILS

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2007 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

27 August–
2 September
2007

Keep Australia Beautiful Week

For more information visit www.kab.org.au

11-13th
September 2007

Recycling Waste Management Exhibition

Birmingham, U.K.

For more information visit www.paper.org.uk/news/events

10-14
September 2007

Waste & Recycle 2007 Conference

Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle

For more information visit www.wasteandrecycle.com.au

14-16th
September 2007

Clean up the World Weekend

For more information visit www.cleanup.org.au/en/Activities/clean-up-the-world-weekend-2007

16-19 October
2007

Waste 2007—Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Conference

Coffs Harbour, NSW

For more information visit www.impactenviro.com.au/waste2007/

12-18 November
2007

National Recycling Week

For more information visit www.planetark.com.au

19-21 November
2007

2nd National Landfill and Transfer Station Conference

Melbourne, Victoria

For more information visit www.wmaa.asn.au

19-21 November
2007

Sustainable Waste Management — A Long Term View

The Waste Management Association of Australia, Victorian State Conference.

Melbourne, Victoria

For more information visit www.wmaa.asn.au

2007 CALENDAR OF SUBMISSIONS

14 September
2007

National Packaging Covenant Project Funding

For more information visit www.packagingcovenant.org.au/

24 September
2007

Comments on WALGA draft Policy Statement for Recycled Organics Applied to Land and Background Paper

For more information contact Megan Graham on 9213 2086 or email mgraham@walga.asn.au or visit www.wastenet.net.au

28 September
2007

Keep Australia Beautiful (KAB) Grants

Applications for litter prevention grants

For more information visit www.kabc.wa.gov.au



MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL
"Setting the Environment Right"

WHAT IS THE MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL?



The Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC) is a standing committee of the Western Australian Local Government Association with delegated authority on municipal waste issues.

MWAC's membership includes the major Regional Councils (waste management). This makes MWAC a unique forum through which all the major Local Government waste management organisations cooperate.

MWAC focuses its work in three main areas:

- The proactive development of policy on priority issues;
- Comprehensive representation of Local Government views on legislation, regulations, administrative policy and related matters; and
- The delivery of grant funded programs consistent with Local Government priorities.



WESTERN METROPOLITAN REGIONAL COUNCIL



SOUTHERN METROPOLITAN REGIONAL COUNCIL

