

INFORMATION BULLETIN

Issue 107

November 2007

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

How is the Joint for You? Joint ground water monitoring contract	2
Dr Blyth on the Case Landfill Levy review	2
Don't Waste This Opportunity WALGA seeking Waste Management Officer	2
LEED the Way Funding opportunity for low emissions energy development	2
Sustainable Futures with WALGA WALGA seeking Sustainability Facilitator	2
Mindarie's Vision Continues Biovision 2020 contract	3
Three Isn't a Crowd in Nedlands Three Bin System Study	3
Got Wood? EMRC Wants it Now! Hazelmere timber recycling facility now open	3
AnaeCo Goes Public AnaeCo listed on Stock Exchange	3
QLD not Listening to CDS Tune Waste strategy discussion paper	4
Tandem in Tasmania Feasibility study into CDS	4
Muster Goes Kerbside Kerbside collection trials	4
Keep it Clean NSW waste reforms	4
Copiers Pay Off Printer and copier recycling	4
Downloadable Ethics Ethical Consumer Group	4
Love It—Hate It SME recycling, 'Love Food, Hate Waste' campaign, supermarket packaging and pay as you throw	5
No Landfill for Wales Landfill Crisis in Wales	5
Wake up and Smell the Gas Greenwashing revealed	5
Money Bags Promoting reuseable bags in Japan	5

WARR BILL - JUST PASSING THROUGH

The Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery (WARR) and Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Levy (WARRL) Bills recently introduced into Parliament, successfully passed through the Legislative Assembly on Wednesday 14 November. It is anticipated the Bills will go to the Legislative Council in the coming days.

Prior to the Bills being debated in Parliament, the Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC) met with the Minister for the Environment, Hon. David Templeman.

In the meeting the Minister agreed to amend the following areas of concern in the WARR Bill:

- ◆ Section 61 - Local laws - limiting the power of the Department of Environment (DEC) CEO to make local laws in relation to waste management;
- ◆ Section 64 (1) (c) (d) - Subject matter for local laws - inclusion of both owner or occupier and defining these terms; and
- ◆ Section 67 (2) - Charging for service - changing the wording to ensure Local Government could charge appropriately for services provided.

MWAC also requested that the WARRL Bill be amended to specifically exclude the proposed Levy from being applied to resource recovery facilities.



The WARRL Bill has not been amended. However, the Minister stated in the Second Reading Speech there is no intent to apply the Levy to materials recovery or alternative waste treatment facilities.

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

More information on the Bills will be available from the WasteNet Website www.wastenet.net.au

DEC IS WORKIN IT!

Extension to due date Non-Metropolitan ZWP Requested Workshops

Initially Phase Two of Zero Waste Plan (ZWP) Development Scheme was due to finish on 14 March 2008. However, the Municipal Waste Advisory Council, in consultation with the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC), has requested an extension of this due date from the Minister. The requested due dates are Phase One, 31 December 2007 and Phase Two, September 2008.

It is intended to hold two other workshops in Wagin and Albany in early 2008.

To assist non-metropolitan Local Governments in development of the Plans, the DEC, in conjunction with MWAC, will be holding a series of workshops. The workshops will be held in late 2007 and early 2008. The initial workshops will be held:

- ◆ **Thursday 29 November 2007** - City of Geraldton-Greenough;
- ◆ **Tuesday 4 December 2007** - Town of Narrogin; and
- ◆ **Thursday 6 December 2007** - Shire of Busselton.

RSVP by **COB Monday 26 November** to Rebecca Brown on 9213 2063 or email rbrown@walga.asn.au

For more information on Zero Waste Plans visit www.zerowastewa.com.au or contact John Davis at the DEC on 6467 5200 or email john.davis@dec.wa.gov.au



HOW IS THE JOINT FOR YOU?

The joint ground water monitoring contract, administered by the Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC), currently conducted by GHD, is due to come to an end in early 2008. The contract allows the Municipal Waste Advisory Council to extend the current arrangement for one

more year. A survey of Local Governments utilising the service is currently being conducted.

Please email the completed survey to singlis@walga.asn.au or fax it to 9322 2611 by **Friday 23 November 2007**.

Pending the results of the

survey showing satisfaction with the service, MWAC intends to renew the contract with GHD for an additional year.

For more information contact contact Simone Staaden (GHD) on 9429 6943 or email sstaaden@ghd.com.au

DR BLYTH ON THE CASE

In September 2007 the Waste Management Board engaged a consultant to undertake a review of some aspects of the Landfill Levy.

The consultant, Dr Michael Blyth of Four Scenes Consulting Pty Ltd, conducted a desktop review of relevant reports and held interviews with selected stakeholders. The results of his research

have formed a draft report which is now available for comment from the Waste Management Board website www.zerowastewa.com.au

Comments are due **Friday 30 November 2007**.

The Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC) was interviewed as a part of the consultation process and has developed a

draft submission on the report available from www.wastenet.net.au

Feedback on the MWAC draft submission is due **Monday 26 November 2007**.

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

A facility is currently being designed in Quebec, Canada, that when finished, aims to turn thousands of tonnes of used nappies each year into synthetic diesel fuel.



(Source: RRF, 9 November 2007)

DON'T WASTE THIS OPPORTUNITY

The Western Australian Local Government Association is currently seeking a Waste Management Officer.



The position will be based in West Perth on a 3 year Performance Based Contract (salary package circa \$40-\$45k), as well as 27 days of annual leave.

In this role, you will provide administrative support within the Waste Management Policy unit, including the preparation of agendas and minutes, organising meetings and functions, along with word

processing and project delivery duties. For more information visit www.workplacesolutions.asn.au or contact Rebecca Brown on 9213 2063 or email rbrown@walga.asn.au

Hurry! As applications for the position close **5pm Monday 19 November 2007**.

LEED THE WAY

Hon David Templeman, Minister for the Environment; Climate Change; Peel has invited the first round of applications for grants from

the \$36.5 million Low Emissions Energy Development (LEED) fund.

Applications close **Wednesday 19 December 2007**. For more information visit www.dec.wa.gov.au

SUSTAINABLE FUTURES WITH WALGA

The Western Australian Local Government Association is currently seeking a Sustainability Facilitator.

Working directly with the CEO and Strategic Executive Team,

the Facilitator will drive a complete review of business and policy processes to entrench sustainability principles into WALGA decision making, policy setting and strategic planning.

Applications close **Friday 23 November 2007**.

For more information visit www.workplacesolutions.asn.au

MINDARIE'S VISION CONTINUES

The Mindarie Regional Council is expecting to finalise contractual details with BioVision 2020 in the near future. Work is expected to begin in early 2008 on the construction of a \$80 million waste processing plant in the Neerabup Industrial Area.

The Resource Recovery Facility will treat up to 100,000 tonnes



of household waste annually and convert about 70% to market quality compost. The waste will come from more than 500,000 residents in the metropolitan area and reduce the volume of household rubbish sent to landfill in the northern suburbs by up to 20%.

BioVision 2020 Pty Ltd will design, build, own and operate the plant for 20 years. BioVision 2020 intends to

engage waste management specialists, S I T A Environmental Solutions, to operate the plant and Canadian company Conporec to supply the composting technology to be used in the plant.

For more information contact Kevin Poynton on 9306 6303.



THREE ISN'T A CROWD IN NEDLANDS

The City of Nedlands has received funding from the Strategic Waste Initiatives Scheme (SWIS) to undertake a critical analysis of the City's new three bin system in partnership with Bowman and Associates, Sulo and Perthwaste.

The City introduced a three bin system in November 2006 to move towards

achieving its goal of reducing waste to landfill by 50%. The three bin system consists of a 120 litre MGB for waste, 240 litre for recycling and a 240 litre vented MGB for green waste.

The study will involve a community survey, waste audit, research into the greenwaste bin and compost, and potential greenhouse gas

reductions from the system.

The study will result in educational tools and a report being produced to inform other Local Governments about the same system.

For more information contact Bruce Bowman on 0402 373 582 or Andrew Melville on 9273 3526.

GOT WOOD? EMRC WANTS IT NOW!

Hazelmere Facility Now Open



The Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council (EMRC) Hazelmere Timber Recycling Centre at Lakes Road, Hazelmere, is now open.

Initially, the Centre will accept untreated industrial timber waste such as pallets and packaging and process it into woodchip for use as a

raw material to several end markets.

It is proposed to then expand the range of materials accepted to timber waste generated from construction and demolition activities.

For more information contact Geraldine Busby at the EMRC on 9424 2220 or email Geraldine.Busby@emrc.org.au

Almost a Hole in One

The Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council (EMRC) Red Hill facility has received a nomination at the Waste Management Association of Australia (WMAA) National Landfill Division, 2007 National Landfill Excellence Awards.

(Source: WMAA, 2007)

IBM has developed a process to recycle silicon wafers into photovoltaic cells for solar panels. It is hoped that this could reduce the estimated three million defective silicon wafers that are discarded worldwide each year.



(Source: Environmental Management News, 7 November 2007)

ANAECo GOES PUBLIC

Waste Management Company, AnaeCo will shortly be listed on the Australian Stock Exchange on the back of its patented recycling technology (DiCOM).



AnaeCo are responsible for waste management technology at a facility being built under a 20-year waste supply agreement with the

Western Metropolitan Regional Council (WMRC). Some of the proceeds from the share offer have been allocated towards building the WMRC facility.

(Source: www.theage.com.au)

QLD NOT LISTENING TO CDS TUNE

A waste strategy discussion paper considering performance based landfill levies, product stewardship schemes and Container Deposit Schemes (CDS) has been released by the Queensland Government.



The QLD Government ruled out a CDS Scheme for Queensland due to the costs quoted in a report from Hyder Consulting. Submissions on the

paper close **Friday 21 December 2007.**

For more information visit www.epa.qld.gov.au

(Source: Environmental Management News, 17 October 2007)

Faced with the constant erosion of Florida's beaches, Broward County officials are exploring using recycled glass-crushed into tiny grains and mixed with regular sand to help fill gaps.



(Source: ALGA News, 14 September 2007)

TANDEM IN TASMANIA

The Tasmanian Government has announced a feasibility study into Container Deposit Systems (CDS) for Tasmania and their ability to work in

tandem with new litter laws. New litter laws come into effect at the end of the year, and will include new provisions to establish a public reporting

hotline so people can report someone who has littered, particularly from motor vehicles.

(Environmental Management News, 26 October 2007)

MUSTER GOES KERBSIDE

MobileMuster Awards

Local Governments that have excelled in supporting MobileMuster, the official recycling program of the mobile phone industry, will be honoured at the Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly in Darwin. More than 220 Local Governments are now actively part of MobileMuster.

For more information visit www.nga.alga.asn.au

(Source: ALGA News, 9 November 2007)



Exploring Kerbside

In an attempt to increase its collection rates the Australian Mobile Telecommunications Association (AMTA) has commissioned the Snowy

Mountains Engineering Corporation (SMEC) to investigate the feasibility of MobileMuster utilising a kerbside collection system to collect mobile phones and their accessories.

For more information visit www.amta.org.au

(Source: www.amta.org.au)

KEEP IT CLEAN

The NSW Government has begun consultation on a package of reforms that aim to make waste regulation

simpler and cleaner under the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act*.

For more information visit www.environment.nsw.gov.au

(Source: WME, October 2007)

COPIERS PAY OFF

Fuji Xerox Sydney based eco-manufacturing facility recycled 220,000 print and copier parts in 2006, saving \$13 million in new part costs and earning \$5.4 million in export revenue.

In 1997, the company made a commitment to reduce the energy consumption of its equipment by 50%. An average 45% reduction in the power consumption rate was achieved by 2005. Products now on the

market consume up to 71% less energy than models built before 1997.

(Source Environmental Management News, 19 October 2007)

DOWNLOADABLE ETHICS

Melbourne's not-for-profit Ethical Consumer Group has been set up to provide information on the environmental and social record of companies for

common products. A downloadable ethical consumer guide is available on the Ethical Consumer Group website. This guide identifies the

impacts of many common supermarket brands. For more information visit www.ethical.org.au

(Source: Zero Waste Victoria E-Bulletin, October 2007)

LOVE IT - HATE IT

SME Recycling

A new funding support scheme has been launched by WRAP (Waste & Resources Action Programme) in the UK, aimed at helping new and existing recycling service providers develop and expand services, primarily with the aim of enabling more Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) to recycle.

Recycling service providers from all sectors, including local authorities, are invited to apply for funding of up to £67,000 (equivalent to €100,000) to develop and expand their service to SMEs for projects of between 3 and 12 months.

For more information visit www.wrap.org.uk (Source: www.wrap.org.uk)

Love Food, Hate Waste

WRAP in the UK has launched a 'Love Food, Hate Waste' campaign to encourage households to reduce the 6.7m tonnes of food being thrown away each year.



WRAP research has revealed that 90% of consumers were completely unaware of the amount of food they threw away. As a part of the campaign an interactive Love Food, Hate Waste website has been launched. The website is full of advice and easy recipes to tackle the everyday causes of food waste.

For more information visit www.lovefoodhatewaste.com (Source: Recycle Now Bulletin, October 2007)

Supermarket Packaging

A report commissioned by the UK Local Government Association (LGA) has found up to 40% of packaging used by leading supermarkets cannot be recycled. (Source: www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news)

Pay as You Throw

Local Governments in England have been given the power to introduce pilot schemes to charge households according to the amount of rubbish they throw away. The powers are given in light of news that the UK could face fines of up to £180m a year from the European Commission if it does not cut the amount of waste going to landfill. (Source: RRF, 9 November 2007)

NO LANDFILL FOR WALES

Consultants Hyder have reported that in less than seven years part of Wales will have no landfill spaces left if the amount of waste generated by households, industry and agriculture continues at its present rate.

12 million tonnes of waste is collected each year in Wales, 70% of which goes straight to landfill.

A long-term national waste strategy for Wales is being prepared by the Welsh

Assembly Government, which will work alongside the Regional Waste Plans in outlining the need for an integrated network of waste management facilities for the country.

(Source: RRF, 9 November 2007)

WAKE UP AND SMELL THE GAS

An advertisement by Royal Dutch Shell promoting its waste recycling record has broken British advertising rules. The offending advert included a picture of an oil refinery,



with chimneys producing flowers and a headline that read "Don't throw anything away - There is no away", going on to say "We use our waste CO2 to grow flowers, and our waste sulphur to make super-strong concrete".

Friends of the Earth made the complaint about the ads, arguing less than 0.325% of the companies carbon emissions were used to grow flowers.

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



(Source: www.edie.net/news)

MONEY BAGS

Seiyu Ltd, a Japanese supermarket operator, has launched a campaign to encourage customers to bring their shopping bags by

refunding 2 yen to shoppers who use their own bag. The proportion of shoppers who brought their own bags

was 6% before the campaign started, it has increased to 26% after the campaign.

(Source: www.japanfs.org/)

A new survey report has found that the average earnings of environmental professionals in the UK have increased by almost 10% in the last two years. Despite this, almost one third of respondents in the survey still felt their salaries compared unfavorably to other professionals.

MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL

Next Meeting

Date: 12 December 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

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2007 / 2008 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 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
- 27-29 November 2007 **European Paper Week**
Brussels, Belgium
For more information visit <http://www.cepi.org/Content/Default.asp?>
- 29 November 2007 **Zero Waste Plan Phase 2 Workshop—Geraldton**
Geraldton
For more information contact Rebecca Brown on 9213 2063
- 4 December 2007 **Zero Waste Plan Phase 2 Workshop—Narrogin/Wagin**
Narrogin/Wagin
For more information contact Rebecca Brown on 9213 2063
- 6 December 2007 **Zero Waste Plan Phase 2 Workshop—Busselton**
Busselton
For more information contact. Rebecca Brown on 9213 2063
- 8-12 September 2008 **Waste & Recycle 2008 Conference, The Heat is On: No Time to Waste**
Esplande Hotel Fremantle
For more information visit www.wasteandrecycle.com.au

2007 / 2008 CALENDAR OF SUBMISSIONS

- 30 November 2007 **Comments on Waste Management Board Review of Landfill Levy**
For more information visit www.zerowastewa.com.au
- 3 December 2007 **Local Adaptation Pathways Programme**
For more information visit www.greenhouse.gov.au
- 14 December 2007 **Nominations for WA's Clean Beach Challenge**
Hosted by KAB and Surf Life Saving WA
For more information visit www.kabc.wa.gov.au
- 19 December 2007 **Low Emissions Energy Development Fund**
For more information visit www.dec.wa.gov.au
- 14 March 2008 **Zero Waste Plan Development Scheme (Possibility for deadline to be extended to September 2008)**
Phase Two
For more information visit www.zerowastewa.com.au



MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL
"Getting Our 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

