



INFORMATION BULLETIN

Issue 95

November 2006

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AC/DC POWERS UP

Following the demise of the Resource Recovery Rebate Scheme (RRRS) an interim scheme will be put into place.

The Auditing Continuity/Data Compilation (AC/DC) Scheme will cover six monthly periods and will be similar to the RRRS in terms of information requested.

There is a substantial change to the funding. Funding will no longer be based on amount recycled, but on the number of services provided.

This is only an interim scheme that will run for one year.

Like the RRRS, the AC/DC Scheme will be administered

by the Municipal Waste Advisory Council. Letters explaining the new scheme will be going out to Local Governments in December.

For more information contact Rebecca Brown on 9 2 1 3 2 0 6 3 or rbrown@walga.asn.au



SAG RECOMENDATIONS

The Stakeholders Advisory Group (SAG) on Container Deposit Systems (CDS) will give their recommendations to the Minister in December 2006.

Based on these recommendations, a Discussion Paper will be produced, it is likely to be

released for comment in early 2007.

SAG has released a Communiqué, which is available on the Waste Management Board website, www.zerowastewa.com.au

The Municipal Waste Advisory Council has a Draft Container Deposit Systems Policy

Statement being considered by the Western Australian Local Government Association State Council for endorsement.

The draft Policy Statement is available at www.wastenet.net.au



CONTAMINATED SITES AND YOU

The Contaminated Sites Legislation will come into force on **Friday 1 December 2006**.

The Western Australian Local Government Association has written to all Local Governments to ensure all officers are aware of the financial and administrative implications of the new legislation.

Under the new legislation, Local Governments must report all sites they know or have reason to suspect may be contaminated if it is land they own, is vested in council, or may have contributed to the pollution of. This information must be reported by **Tuesday 1 May 2007**.

Local Governments will also have a legal responsibility to ensure future developments

are cognisant of contamination resulting from a previous land use.

For more information contact Megan Graham on 9 2 1 3 2 0 8 6 or mgraham@walga.asn.au or visit the Department of Environment and Conservation website www.dec.wa.gov.au/contaminatedsites

'NO TIME TO WASTE' IN ALBANY

The City of Albany has set up the 'No Time to Waste' Committee in their main administration building.

Their first initiative was the replacement of all general waste bins at workstations with recycling only bins.

General waste bins were placed in common areas. Almost immediately the four 240L Mobile Garbage Bin's of recyclables collected from the office each week doubled to eight bins.

At the same time a recycling station was set up in the staff

lunchroom for batteries, cards, mobile phones and printer cartridges. This program will be implemented in other Council buildings in the City of Albany shortly.

For more information contact Ian Neil on 9841 9208.

STIRLING OFFER

The City of Stirling has passed a Management Policy for clothing bins on Council land at its October Council Meeting.

Under the new policy, all bins located on Council property would have to be registered

with the City with registration provisional upon a number of operating conditions.



being used to dump household junk, costing Stirling \$10,000 a year to clean up.

The decision follows the City considering removal of the bins earlier in the year, due to sites

(Source: Stirling Times, 14 November 2006)

BUSY BOARD

The Department of Environment and Conservation, on behalf of the Waste Management Board, has released a number of Reports.

These Reports include:

- ◆ *Landfill Ban - Impacts of a Potential Ban on the Disposal of Household Recyclable Packaging, Recyclable Building Products and Organic Waste to Landfill*

(comments due **15 January 2007**).

- ◆ *Review of Management and Operation of Used Tyre Stockpiles: Stockpile Guidelines* (comments due **15 January 2007**).
- ◆ *Draft Household Chemical Waste Storage Design Guidelines* (comments due **2 February 2007**).
- ◆ *Review of Management of Used Tyres at Landfill Sites* (comments due **1 February 2007**).

- ◆ *Market Development Study- Used Glass* (comments due **8 January 2007**)

Submissions, for all but the Used Glass Report should be emailed to jill.lethlean@dec.wa.gov.au. Those for the Used Glass Report should be emailed to peter.tapsell@dec.wa.gov.au

All Reports are available from www.zerowastewa.com.au

C-C-CUT

The Core Consultative Committee on Waste (3C) has had their role cut short. 3C were established by the Waste Management Board in October 2002 to provide advice and promote open discussion about waste management issues.

In 2003, their role expanded to give greater attention and priority to stakeholder concerns regarding the management of hazardous waste in the State.

The Minister has now advised that the Committee has completed its task.

3C have recommended four sites within Western Australia as possible hazardous waste treatment precincts. The Committee had considered close to 1000 sites, which it had short listed to 8 before recommending a total of 4 sites.



The sites are:

- ◆ Mungari Industrial Estate in Goldfields;

- ◆ a site 15km south-west of Karratha in the Pilbara;
- ◆ The Avon Industrial Park near Northam; and
- ◆ a site at Mt Marshall near Bencubbin in the South-West.

The Minister for Environment, Hon. Mark McGowan is now considering 3C's recommendations.

For more information visit www.3c.org.au

A German man delivered his dead father's decaying corpse to a police station in a wheelie bin after having kept the body hidden in the bin for months for financial reasons.



(Source: Reuters, 7 November 2006)

FUN IN THE 'PARK'



The Mindarie Regional Council's Tamala Park facility now has playground equipment at its recycling centre to keep those kids entertained while mum and dad shop for a bargain.

Thus far the staff have been kept the most entertained, as can be seen in the photograph of Operations Manager Mike Tolson giving the equipment a thorough 'safety and load testing'.

NEW POSISTION ON DEC

A new position has been established within the Waste Management Branch of Department of the Environment and Conservation (DEC) to give priority attention to rural, regional and remote partners.



Jenny Campbell, Senior Project Coordinator within the Stakeholders Programs Section, has recently been

appointed to this role. She will be working with rural, regional and remote Local Governments to enhance their capacity to take more effective action on reducing waste.

A key objective is to facilitate and coordinate development and implementation of strategic waste initiatives

outside the Perth metropolitan area. Initially this will include facilitating support to Local Government in developing Zero Waste Plans.

For more information contact Jenny Campbell on Ph:6467 5308, Mob:0429 883 674 or jenny.campbell@dec.wa.gov.au

A lingerie manufacturer in Japan has unveiled a new type of bra that can be converted into a shopping bag. The bra, called "No! Shopping Bag Bra", is a part of a range of environmentally friendly lingerie.



(Source: RRF, 17 November 2006)

RECYCLING RUNNING HOT



A national recycling hotline and website covering all 672 Local Government Areas across Australia has been launched by Australian Minister for the Environment and Heritage,

Senator Ian Campbell, and Planet Ark founder John Dee.

The service will give householders and businesses complete information about what and where they can recycle in their local areas.

It is hoped the hotline and website will help the 48% of Australians which research has found are confused about what they can and cannot recycle.

The Hotline is 1300 733 712 and the website is RecyclingNearYou.com.au

E-ONLINE

Griffith University is currently conducting an e-waste survey of Local Governments to broadly determine how e-waste is perceived and identify what Local Governments feel are the main issues.

The collated survey data including analysis will be sent

to all respondents for comments/consultation period prior to being presented in a final report.

This report will be available to all Local Governments from the University's web page. It will be accompanied by other research results (including an Australian University e-waste

survey, draft policy documents, compositional data, chemical analyses of run-off from stored e-waste and Best Practice Case Studies).

The survey can be accessed from www.griffith.edu.au/school/eng/ewaste/content_councilsurvey.html

SWIS UP TO PAR

Dale and Associates were recently awarded a grant under the Strategic Waste Initiatives Scheme (SWIS) to *Encourage the Golf Industry to take Strategic Waste Initiatives*.

The two year project has two parts. In Part One, they will:

- ◆ conduct field trials on four Perth golf courses of soil amendments sourced from stockpiles of composts and inorganic materials; and
- ◆ demonstrate to golf clubs the benefits of using soil amendments to reduce irrigation, fertiliser and leachates and of being

waterise and energysmart.



In Part Two they will carry out a waste management and resources use audit of forty bigger country golf clubs. For more information contact David Dale on 9367 2635.

BUYING A BETTER FUTURE

Behavior experts in the UK have found workplace pressure could be the cause of wasteful habits at work. Good recycling habits in the home tend to be lost with the stress of the workplace.



(RRF, 4 November 2006).

A report released by the House of Representatives Environment Committee revealed that managing the procurement dollar could be an important weapon towards the development of a sustainable Australia. Australian Government Agencies spend about \$17

billion each year on goods and services and ensuring green procurement in these agencies is a strong market instrument to achieve sustainable consumption. The Report highlights the need for action at the national level to develop a cohesive and

coordinated approach to procurement and sustainability.

The Report 'Review of Green Office Procurement Audits' is available at www.aph.gov.au/house (Source: Waste Streams, Oct/Nov 2006)

WA BELOW AVERAGE

In March 2006 a Survey of 'Household waste management' was conducted. From this, about 98% of Australian households recycled waste, 87% reused waste, while only less than one per cent did not recycle or reuse waste at all.

Australia recycled waste, while 87% of households reused their waste materials. The main reasons that households in WA did not recycle were that they did not have enough waste to warrant it (85%), lack of interest or effort (24%), and no services or facilities provided (22%).

wastes disposed of by WA households were batteries (67%), electrical products and medicines and drugs (33% each), and motor oil (29%).

For more information visit www.abs.gov.au (Source: *Environmental Issues: Peoples Views and Practices*, March 2006)

96% of households in Western Most common hazardous

DOING IT IN PUBLIC COSTLY

In NSW, the packaging and beverage industry has been accused of 'conning' Local Government to take on another 'unfunded mandate'.

Forum is offering NSW Councils seed money to build recycling infrastructure such as bins in parks and other public places.

The NSW Local Government Association is accusing industry of offering financial help in the first year or so to set up the system but then walking away to leave Local Government with the ongoing financial burden.

In an attempt to address packaging consumed away from home under the new National Packaging Covenant the Packaging Stewardship

Councils would then have to fund these recycling facilities and provide quarterly reports on amount of recyclables collected.

(Source: Sydney Morning Herald, 7 November 2006)

TAKE A DUMP

Nominations are now open for DUMP Awards 2006. These awards expose damaging and useless materials in packaging.

Nominations close **Friday 1 December 2006** and winners will be announced in January 2007.



For more information visit www.envict.org.au

(Source: www.envict.org.au)

TIME TO CHANGE

The most comprehensive review ever carried out on climate change has been published. The review, which reports to the Prime Minister of the UK, was carried out by Sir Nicholas Stern, Head of the Government Economic Service and World Bank Chief.



half is from landfill sites and most of the remainder from wastewater treatment. Reusing and recycling lead to less resources being required to produce new goods and a reduction in associated emissions.

Stern cites a forthcoming US EPA report that notes waste is currently responsible for 1.4 GtCO₂e/year, of which over

Technologies such as energy-recovering incinerators also help to reduce emissions.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change estimate that 0.7 GtCO₂e/year could be saved in 2020, of which three quarters could be achieved at negative cost and one quarter at a cost of \$5/tCO₂e.

The report is available http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/media/8AC/F7/Executive_Summary.pdf (Source: RRF, 4 November 2006)

'DUBAI-IES' RECYCLING

Arrangements have been made for the construction of the Dubai Recycling Park, the first fully integrated waste management and recycling park in the Middle East.

mid-2007 and will take about 18 months.

The feasibility study, master plan and management of Dubai Recycling Park will be contracted to Remondis of Germany, the fourth largest

waste management company in the world and one of the world's leading companies in waste management technology and know-how.

(Source: RRF, 4 November 2006)

Construction is due to start



BIO-INVASION

A coalition of citizen and recycling organizations in the US have challenged NatureWorks plans to push its new bio-based plastic, polylactic acid or PLA, in bottles.

recycled or converted back into PLA. However the coalition questioned the economic viability of recycling or composting PLA bottles as well as the effect PLA bottles in large numbers will have on the economies of PET bottle recycling.

NatureWorks claims that PLA can be composted, physically

A spokesperson for the coalition has called for biobased companies to focus on replacing nonrecyclable disposable plastic products and stay away from those with a well established recycling tradition.

(Source: RRF, 20 October 2006).

USE IT OR LOSE IT

A Local Authority in the UK is penalising residents for not utilising their recycling bins,

by replacing their MGB waste bins with containers that only

hold two thirds as much waste. (Source: www.thisislondon.co.uk/news)

SAINSBURYS FIRST PAST THE POST

Following publication of the Battery Directive last month, Sainsburys supermarkets in the UK has introduced a new freepost household battery recycling scheme. Under the Battery Directive, Britain will be required to recycle a quarter of all

batteries used each year by 2012.

Sainburys will be providing envelopes addressed to a Norfolk company called Cellular Surplus, which will remove the batteries for transportation in bulk to the only recycler of



alkaline cells in the UK. A recycling service will also be provided for mobile phones and ink cartridges. By choosing freepost as the collection method, the Post Office will be making collections, cutting out the need for other pickups. (Source: www.letsrecycle.com)

November's Nero of the month is Clem Sunter, Waste & Recycle 2006 Keynote speaker, a man of a million smiles.

MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL

Next Meeting

Date: 13 December 2006

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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2006/2007 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 22-24 November 2006 **5th Australian Conference on Life Cycle Assessment**
Melbourne, Victoria
For more information visit <http://lca-conf.alcas.asn.au>
- 29 November 2006 **Biomass and Waste to Energy Symposium**
Venice, Italy
For more information visit www.venicesymposium.it/venice2006/venice.html
- 5-8 December 2006 **Bioenergy Australia 2006 Conference**
Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle
For more information visit www.bioenergyaustralia.org
- 11-12 December 2006 **National Emissions Trading Summit**
Sydney
For more information visit www.informa.com.au
- 23-25 January 2007 **Global Plastics Recycling Conference**
Florida, US
For more information visit www.4spe.org/conf/gpec07/07gpec.php
- 6-12 May 2007 **International Compost Week**
For more information visit www.compostingcouncil.org/section.cfm?id=25
- 10-14 September 2007 **Waste & Recycle 2007 Conference**
Esplanade Hotel Fremantle
For more information visit www.wasteandrecycle.com.au

2006/2007 CALENDAR OF SUBMISSIONS

- 27 November 2006 **Draft Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Bill 2006 and Draft Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery (Landfill Levy) Bill 2006**
For more information visit www.dec.wa.gov.au
- 27 December 2006 **Comments on Investigation into the Environment, Social and Economic Impacts of a Potential Banning of Used Tyres to Landfill and of Mandatory Recycling of Used Tyres**
For more information visit www.zerowastewa.com.au
- 15 January 2007 **Comments on Landfill Ban - Impacts of a Potential Ban on the Disposal of Household Recyclable Packaging, Recyclable Building Products and Organic Waste to Landfill**
For more information visit www.zerowastewa.com.au
- 1 February 2007 **Comments on Review of Management of Used Tyres at Landfill Sites**
For more information visit www.zerowastewa.com.au
- 2 February 2007 **Comments on Draft Household Chemical Waste Storage Design Guidelines**
For more information visit www.zerowastewa.com.au



MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL
"Setting the Environment Right"

WHAT IS THE MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL?



WESTERN AUSTRALIAN
LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

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.

