



Waste Authority

## MEDIA STATEMENT

### Waste & Recycle Workshop in Port Hedland

**19 October, 2009**

Port Hedland residents and local business people are encouraged to take part in a workshop about the future management of waste and the environment in the Pilbara.

The workshop, to be held on **Tuesday November 17, from 11am until 2pm**, will be run by the Waste Authority at the **Council Chambers in McGregor Street**. Local people are urged to drop in, ask questions and offer their feedback to Waste Authority Chair Barry Carbon.

“There are emerging issues relating to waste management in Port Hedland and surrounding areas of the Pilbara which will impact upon local people and businesses,” Mr Carbon said.

Barry Carbon was previously the longest serving chair of the Western Australian Environmental Protection Authority. He has also been in charge of government environmental agencies for the Commonwealth, Queensland and New Zealand, with significant experience in public sector organizations across Australia and overseas as well as many private sector companies including Woodside. He has also been a supervising scientist for many projects with the CSIRO and managed environmental affairs for Alcoa Australia. Mr Carbon said local people and recycling organizations in the Pilbara were already doing a great job in sorting, reprocessing and disposal of waste.

“Whilst our population has increased, the community is doing a good job in reducing the amount of waste sent to landfill by recycling old batteries and computers and clean up efforts for old car wrecks,” he said.

“However as our population grows and our standard of living increases, we will need to work even harder at being careful with the resources we consume. This is particularly relevant to larger regional centres such as the Pilbara with the current mining boom, where we will need to focus on continued development of resource recovery infrastructure and technologies.”

Mr Carbon said regional councils and other local government organizations will be involved in developing and implementing Strategic Waste Management Plans that include measures to increase resource recovery.

The Draft Waste Strategy provides a forward looking approach for coordinating the efforts of state and local government, the waste industry and other involved groups in delivering wise management of waste across the state. Local people are urged to provide feedback on the strategy and attend their local workshop. **Details about the workshops and other consultation activities are available on the website [www.yoursaywastewa.com.au](http://www.yoursaywastewa.com.au) or you can email [HaveYourSay@yoursaywastewa.com.au](mailto:HaveYourSay@yoursaywastewa.com.au) by December 10, 2009.**

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