



Department of Environment and Conservation
Government of Western Australia

7 August 2008

Media Statement

Public opinions sought on new plans for Goldfields and Esperance waste

Goldfields and Esperance residents are being urged to join the war on waste by adding their input to a new Strategic Waste Management Plan being developed for the area.

Work on the plan is supported by funding from a levy on waste disposal from the metropolitan area under the Zero Waste Plan Development Scheme which is now being implemented by the new Waste Authority, Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) and Western Australian Local Government Association.

Waste Authority Chairman Barry Carbon said he was thrilled with the progress being made in regional WA in planning for better management of domestic waste.

"It is exciting that plans for the Goldfields and Esperance have matured to the stage where they can be enhanced by public input," Mr Carbon said. "I encourage interested people of the region to have their say."

DEC Regional Waste Management Coordinator Raymond York said the latest statistics show that up to 175,000 tonnes of waste are produced annually in the region and only a small proportion is recycled.

"These figures highlight that we have a long way to go to improve our waste management practices so the councils are developing this plan to help the community progress the State's vision of Towards Zero Waste," Mr York said.

"We all contribute to generating waste so it's important that everyone from households to industry should be given the opportunity to have their say on how it's managed.

"I'm very impressed with the level of interest in the scheme, with all four councils in the region keen to join forces to work together in developing the plan."

Public meetings will be held by the Goldfields Group of Councils and a consultant to discuss solutions to local issues including landfill use, recycling of e-waste, hazardous waste and greenwaste.

- **Coolgardie** - Monday 11 August (6pm Coolgardie Recreation Centre)
- **Kambalda** - Tuesday 12 August (6pm Shire of Coolgardie, Kambalda West)
- **Kalgoorlie** - Wednesday 13 August (contact Shire of Kalgoorlie/Boulder)
- **Norseman** - Thursday 14 August (contact Shire of Dundas, Norseman)
- **Esperance** - Monday 18 August (5pm Shire of Esperance, Windich St)

For more information contact Raymond York on 6467 5309 or at raymond.york@dec.wa.gov.au, or visit www.zerowastewa.com.au

Media contact: DEC Media
6467 5555