



## Waste Authority

# CONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE WASTE AUTHORITY MEETING

held on Wednesday 1 July 2009  
Department of Environment and Conservation  
12.30 pm – 5.50pm

Meeting No. 08/2009

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### 1. WELCOME, APOLOGIES & INTRODUCTIONS

#### MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr Barry Carbon	Chairman
Ms Jan Grimoldby	Deputy Chair
Ms Carolyn Jakobsen	Left the meeting at 4.05pm
Mr Marcus Geisler	

#### ATTENDEES

Mr Robert Atkins	A/Deputy Director General – Environment, DEC (Delegate for Director General, DEC)	
Mr Stuart Cowie	A/Director, Strategic Policy & Programs	Left at 1.20pm
Mr Bernard Ryan	A/Manager, Waste Management Branch	
Ms Jill Lethlean	Manager, Programs, DEC	For items 8.6, 9.1, 9.2, 9.3 & 9.5
Mr Paul Ward	WARRA Administration, DEC	For Item 8.2
Ms Diane McKinnon	Executive Officer, Waste Authority	Minutes/Actions

#### APOLOGIES

Prof Paul Hardisty	Overseas
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The Chairman declared the Waste Authority meeting open at 12.30 pm and welcomed members and DEC officers to the meeting.

### 2. MATTERS ARISING FROM MEETING WITH STAFF OF THE WASTE MANAGEMENT BRANCH

Discussion in relation to this item was addressed above and at item 8.1 – Proposed Implications of Tabled amendments / Legislation Changes.

### 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were declared by members during the meeting.

#### 4. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CHAIRMAN

The Chairman advised members that he had recently appeared before the Standing Committee on Estimates and Financial Operations in relation to the 2009/10 Budget Estimates. He advised that since his hearing, the Committee has a number of additional questions. The Chairman sought feedback from DEC (Robert Atkins) on an appropriate DEC officer to assist in responding to the questions at the end of the meeting.

The Chairman would make transcript of the proceedings available when it was proper to do so.

#### 5. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

##### RESOLUTION OF DISCUSSION:

**5.1 The minutes of the Waste Authority meeting held on 3 June 2009 were confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting subject to minor amendments.**

**Moved:** Mr Geisler  
**Seconded:** Ms Grimoldby  
**CARRIED**

#### 6. REPORT ON ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Members reviewed the actions from previous meetings. The status of actions listed were acknowledged and noted. The following items required clarification or an update on status during the meeting:

##### Actions from 3 June 2009 meeting:

**7.1.2 Status on E-Waste – Quotes for consultancy services to prepare MoUs for AIIA, WALGA and strategic partnership placements.** The Authority queried the status of the proposed consultancy for the development of a MoU between the Authority and AIIA. DEC informed that works on the quotation document to seek consultancy services is currently underway. The Chairman advised that quotes for the AIIA MoU be released as a matter of urgency to ensure Ministerial timeframes for announcement are met.

**9.3 Landfill Levy Administration Policy 2006 – adoption of the Landfill Levy Administration Policy by the Authority.** The Chairman highlighted that the Policy was adopted by the Authority at its June meeting and requested that changes be finalised and the revised policy released as soon as possible (within the next week).

**9.7.1 Incentives for Local Government to complete Annual Survey.** Members agreed that local governments be notified now of funding eligibility provided by the Authority requiring the completion of survey forms on an annual basis, rather than waiting for the survey to commence.

**9.7.3 & 9.13.2 Legal Services for C&D waste management plans and regulation incorporating data collection.** The Authority requested DEC to proceed as soon as possible on obtaining legal services for C&D waste management plans and regulation incorporating data collection either internally or externally (subject to capacity).

**9.8 Review of Total Recycling Activity in WA 2007/08.** The Authority had a general discussion in relation to measuring the diversion of waste from landfill and the

documentation for seeking quotes to undertake the review. Members noted that there had been an opportunity to provide input on additional key performance indicators for the scope of works. Following further discussion on the matter, it was resolved that DEC (Robert Atkins) would provide input into an out-of-session briefing note to make a decision on this matter.

**Actions from 6 May 2009 meeting:**

- 7.25 Obtaining professional services for an Office of Waste Authority journalist/media officer.** In relation to DEC's comment that a draft scope of works has been prepared for discussion with the Chair and Deputy Chair, the Chairman advised that he wished the ability for the Authority to hire someone part-time now to do urgent work. DEC (Robert Atkins) committed to look into this. (Resolution 8.1.2, page 6 refers).
- 7.8.4 National Waste Policy – DEC to provide a copy of the Authority's submission to the Minister, along with advice informing of the Authority's recommendations in this regard.** The Authority queried the status of this action. DEC to confirm if the Authority's submission on the National Waste Policy has been provided to the Minister.

**ACTIONS:**

- 6.1 DEC to release quotation documentation for the MoU between the Authority and the Allia as soon as possible.**
- 6.2 DEC to finalise changes to the Landfill Levy Administration Policy 2006 and release within the next week.**
- 6.3 DEC to notify local governments now of funding eligibility provided by the Authority being subject to the completion of survey forms on an annual basis.**
- 6.4 DEC to proceed as soon as possible on obtaining legal services for C&D waste management plans and regulation incorporating data collection (either internally or externally – subject to capacity).**
- 6.5 DEC (Robert Atkins) to provide input into an out-of-session briefing note to finalise details of key performance indicators for measuring the diversion of waste from landfill.**
- 6.6 DEC to ensure that a copy of the Authority's submission on the National Waste Policy is provided to the Minister, along with advice informing of the Authority's recommendations in this regard.**

**7. OUT OF SESSION ITEMS**

**7.1 SWIS / CGS Recommendations – Round 1, 2009**

Members noted that a *Resolution without Meeting* of 17 June 2009, recorded its out of session approval of:

- 1) *The recommendations of the grants sub-committee for the allocation of grant funding for Round 1, 2009 of the Strategic Waste Initiatives Scheme (SWIS) in accordance with Attachment 1 – Recommendations of Successful SWIS Applications (circulated via email on 15 June 2009); and*

- 2) *The recommendations of the grants sub-committee for the allocation of grant funding for Round 1, 2009 of the Community Grants Scheme (CGS) in accordance with Attachment 2 – Recommendations of Successful CGS Applications (circulated via email on 15 June 2009).*

The Chairman advised members of the process in preparing media releases regarding successful SWIS and CGS projects. He advised that all successful and non-successful applicants were advised on the status of their applications via DEC on 25 June. DEC informed that contracts are currently being sent out to successful applicants for signing.

The Chairman commended the efforts of DEC in coordinating the SWIS/CGS Round 1 process so quickly and efficiently. He also commended the efforts of the SWIS/CGS grants sub-committee in reviewing and assessing proposals under tight timeframes to ensure the process was completed prior to end of the financial year.

#### **RESOLUTIONS OF DISCUSSION:**

##### **The Authority:**

- 7.1.1 Noted the Resolution without Meeting of 17 June 2009 regarding the approval of Round 1 2009 SWIS and CGS projects.**
- 7.1.2 Noted that successful and non-successful applicants had received advice on the outcome of their applications.**

## **8. DISCUSSION / DECISION ITEMS**

### **8.1 Proposed Implications of Tabled Amendments / Legislative Changes**

The Chairman summarised events following the Governments announcement of increases to the landfill levy as part of the 2009/10 State Budget and changes required to legislation as a result.

He informed members that following the discussion at the June Authority meeting, two letters were provided to the Minister, the first providing approval of draft regulation amendments and the second letter outlining views of the Authority in relation to the decision to increase the levy.

The Chairman advised members of a joint media statement released on 23 June by the Minister and Treasurer. The statement advised that the Government will not introduce the 300% increase in landfill levy charges as announced in the 2009/10 State Budget until 1 January 2010 (previously 1 July 2009). The timing was to ensure certainty for local governments and to allow the Parliamentary consideration of the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Amendment Bill 2009.

The Authority had an 'in-camera discussion' on this matter.

DEC outlined the main amendments proposed in the WARR Act and WARR Levy Act, through the *WARR Amendment Bill 2009*. A copy of the draft Bill had previously been provided to members by the Chairman. A summary of the key amendments required to the WARR Act are outlined below.

**Section 36 (1).** Includes additional sub-section to ensure services and facilities that are reasonably necessary to be provided or used (under section 16) for the next financial year to enable the Waste Authority to perform its functions.

**Section 73.** Includes additional sub-section to ensure any levy paid to be credited to an operating account of the Department established under the *Financial Management Act 2006* section 16(1)(a).

**Section 76.** Includes additional sub-section to include for any amount paid by way of penalty under sub-section (1) to be credited to an operating account of the Department established under the *Financial Management Act 2006* section 16(1)(a).

**Section 79(2).** Includes additional sub-sections to allow for the Minister to direct in each financial year (credited to the WARR Account) an amount of the levy credited to the Department's operating account under section 73(4) as specified by the Minister. It also outlines that the amount specified must not be less than 25% of the forecast levy amount for the financial year.

**Section 80.** Replaces sections 80(1) and (2) by including additional sub-sections to allow for moneys held in the WARR Account to be applied in a manner consistent with the current business plan or as approved by the Minister, to fund programs relating to the management, reduction, reuse, recycling, monitoring or measurement of waste, preparation, implementation, review and amendment of the waste strategy, waste plans, EPR schemes, costs of administering the WARR Account and other services as defined. Includes payment of other costs associated with the administration and enforcement of the Act and remuneration of members of the Waste Authority.

**Section 81(1).** Includes *Auditor General Act 2006*.

**Schedule 2.** Includes additional sub-section to allow the Authority to seek advice of other entities as it sees fit for the purpose of providing advice to the Minister in relation to the setting and variation of the levy. Also includes provision to develop and publish a statement of the objectives to be achieved by programs funded under section 80(1)(a) from time to time.

DEC outlined the main amendments proposed for the WARR Levy Act. A summary of the key amendments are outlined below.

**Section 4(1).** Replaces 'Waste Authority' with Minister for responsibility of setting the levy. Includes additional sub-sections to allow for the Waste Authority to provide advice to the Minister for making a recommendation as to the amount by way of levy to be prescribed. The Minister must give due weight, but is not bound to accept the advice of the Waste Authority in this regard.

The Chairman thanked DEC for providing a summary of key amendments to the WARR Act and WARR Levy Act. He informed that the levy will continue to be collected as previously, with previously prescribed increase to \$8.00 per tonne for putrescible waste from 1 July 2009. All levy monies will be held in the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Account unless there is legislative change.

The Chairman sought feedback from DEC on the amount of levy monies collected under the WARR Account for the 2008/09 financial year (excluding carry-overs, outstanding debts etc). DEC informed that \$12.5 million is expected.

The Chairman advised that the Authority is making advancement and inputs on the MoU between the Authority and the department. He informed that the Authority is also pursuing job descriptions for officers of the Office of the Waste Authority.

The Chairman advised of the urgent need to proceed in obtaining staff within the Waste Management Branch to fill vacant positions to undertake crucial work required, including e-waste and glass. In relation to staffing of the Office of the Waste Authority, the Authority agreed that in the interim period, the services of a consultant should be obtained to focus on media statements and

releasing recycling progress for the Authority on a part-time basis (up to 2 days per week). The Authority requested DEC to follow up on obtaining the services of a consultant in this regard as a matter of priority.

#### **RESOLUTIONS OF DISCUSSION:**

##### **The Authority:**

**8.1.1 Noted the proposed implications of tabled amendments and Legislative changes to the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery (WARR) Act and WARR Levy Act.**

**8.1.2 Agreed that in the interim period, the services of a consultant be obtained to focus on media statements and 'good news stories' for the Authority on a part-time basis (up to 2 days per week).**

##### **ACTION:**

**8.1.3 DEC to action 8.1.2 as a matter of priority.**

## **8.2 5-Year Waste Authority Budget (2009/10 – 2013/14)**

DEC presented a 2009/10 Waste Authority budget and a proposed 5 year budget for the Authority's consideration. The briefing included various attachments outlining specific project costs and a cashflow model for the landfill levy.

The Authority noted that the 2008/09 budget opened with \$13 million. DEC informed that some activities and project descriptions will require updating and additional detail. DEC also advised that depending on expenditure and future landfill levy increases etc, updates may be required. It was noted that the project area for Waste Strategy implementation may potentially overlap between other areas highlighted with the budget.

Members discussed the various project areas highlighted within the document. The Authority agreed:

- that a mechanism to carry forward commitments each year was required. It was determined that a predicted annual carry-forward amount of between 2 – 3 million would be expected and should be allowed for each year.
- that the following areas required further discussion and decision, including: Waste Wise Schools Grants (1.3), Keep Australia Beautiful Council (3.2), Partnership Funding - organics communication and industry support (3.4), National Packaging Covenant (5.11), Waste Wise Schools (5.12) and Waste Strategy Implementation (7.1 – 7.10).
- to allocate \$100,000 for sponsorship (2.1) for the 2009/10 period.
- in relation to the Zero Waste Plan Development Scheme (4.1) and the development of strategic waste management plans, \$575,000 be allocated for 2009/10. The Authority noted that two extensions had already been provided for the plans, and agreed that all strategic waste management plans must be completed prior to the end of the 2009 calendar year.
- to provide support to regional investment plans in line with its previous commitment, but agreed that the plans must be finalised by the end of the 2009 calendar year (with a realistic cashflow to be provided within the budget documentation). The Authority agreed that 2 million be allocated for the 2009/10 period only and that an independent review of the regional investment plans be undertaken early next year prior to committing further funds.

- in relation to the Household Hazardous Waste Program (4.2), 2 million be allocated for the 2009/10 period only. The Authority agreed to discuss and determine future funding allocations for the program further.
- to allocate \$300,000 for the Waste Strategy and Business Plan (5.1), including advertising costs, forums, travel etc.
- to allocate \$100,000 each financial year to the Chairman's Discretionary Fund (5.4).
- to merge together Governance and Operations (5.7) with Executive Support to Waste Authority (5.8).
- not to allocate a budget for Levy Refunds (5.13) as this was outside the responsibility of the Authority.
- not to determine a budget allocation for the promotion of recycling (5.14) as further discussion is required.
- to allocate \$85,000 for Infrastructure Planning (5.15) for the 2009/10 period.
- that the Environment Protection and Heritage Council (6.1) and Levy collection and compliance (6.2) requires further discussion and determination by the Authority.
- that section 5.6 is not required (consultation on landfill levy) as this is included at section 7.1 (Community Engagement Waste Avoidance).
- section 5.9 (legal services) is not required as this is included at section 7.4 (regulatory reform).
- in relation to staffing costs of the Waste Management Branch and the Office of the Waste Authority, the Authority agreed that further discussion is required to determine budget allocations, which will need to be adjusted in accordance with MoU requirements. It was noted that \$3.48 million is the working budget for 25 FTEs within the Branch.

Following the discussion, the Authority noted that expenditure for the 2009/10 financial year is anticipated to be in the order of \$23 million, with a 6.1 million carryover.

#### **RESOLUTIONS OF DISCUSSION:**

##### **The Authority:**

- 8.2.1 Adopted a figure for levy income of \$13 million for budgeting purposes for 2009/10.**
- 8.2.2 Noted and updated budget spreadsheets for consideration in accordance with above discussion.**
- 8.2.3 Agreed to discuss as a priority at the next meeting, outstanding project areas and budget requirements.**
- 8.2.4 Agreed to a 'business as usual' approach for the 2009/10 financial year.**

### **8.3 Market Support Scheme for Recycling**

DEC informed members of the progress made on the market support scheme for recycling. DEC advised that the scheme is based on making quarterly payments available to processors of material (in the first instance) based on the commodity price of each material sold and the amount by which it falls below the agreed market floor price for that material.

DEC explained that the market floor price is calculated with regard to long term commodity prices with an allowance for expected variations. Only once the price drops below this point, would a payment become possible. DEC outlined the proposed method by which processors would receive the payment.

DEC advised that the scheme would sustain capital assets by protecting the current infrastructure from sudden drops in commodity prices and lag in recovery.

The Authority discussed the form and function of the market support scheme as detailed in attachment 1 of the briefing and generally agreed with the proposal put forward. The Authority discussed the need to establish an oversight committee (review panel) to confirm the international floor price for commodities and ensure an independent assessment and verification of payments under the scheme is made. The Authority agreed that the oversight committee should comprise of appropriate senior officers of the WMAA (WA Branch), WALGA and FORC, DEC (Mr Bernard Ryan) and a member of the Authority (Mr Marcus Geisler).

The Authority agreed that the review panel would be chaired by Mr Marcus Geisler, who would have responsibility for informing the Minister on the scheme as required.

The Authority agreed to proceed with the market support scheme as discussed during the meeting, and agreed to an amount up to \$5 million to be allocated in total for the scheme (for up to 4 quarters), until the end of the 2009/10 financial year.

The Chairman commended the efforts of Mr Marcus Geisler and Mr Bernard Ryan on behalf of the Authority for their significant contributions in developing the market support scheme.

Ms Jakobsen left the meeting at 4.05pm (following this item).

#### **RESOLUTIONS OF DISCUSSION:**

##### **The Authority:**

- 8.3.1 Noted the proposed form and function of the Market Support Scheme as detailed in Attachment 1 of the briefing.**
- 8.3.2 Subject to minor amendments as determined at the meeting, agreed to write to the Minister for Environment seeking approval of the Market Support Scheme, requesting funding of up to \$5 million in total be approved for the scheme (for up to 4 quarters) until the end of the 2009/10 financial year.**
- 8.3.3 Agreed to establish an oversight committee (review panel) comprising appropriate senior officers of the WMAA (WA Branch), WALGA, FORC, DEC (Mr Bernard Ryan) and a member of the Authority (Mr Marcus Geisler).**
- 8.3.4 Confirmed that Mr Marcus Geisler would be the Chair of the oversight committee outlined in 8.3.3 and the Authority's representative in ongoing detailed discussions on the operation of the scheme. Mr Geisler will also be responsible for informing the Minister as required.**

#### **8.4 Sponsorship Policy**

The Authority determined at its June meeting, that no further sponsorship proposals would be considered until a sponsorship policy for the Authority was established and endorsed. DEC provided a draft sponsorship policy for the Authority's consideration, provided at attachment 1 of the briefing.

The draft sponsorship policy outlined sponsorship objectives, activities, selection criteria, monitoring and evaluation and applications for sponsorship. Members provided the following comment on the draft:

- In relation to sponsorship objectives (section 3), agreed that the last dot point be changed to read as *'promote continuing improvement in waste management in Western Australia, including waste reduction.'*
- In relation to sponsorship selection criteria, agreed that item 9 be changed to read as *'does not provide for income support for individuals'* and agreed to include additional criteria *'to demonstrate/promote best practice.'*
- Agreed that sponsorship proposals be considered three times per year for funding.

DEC advised of potential constraints on Government advertising and promotion, which may extend to activities of the Waste Authority and include sponsorship. DEC undertook to clarify whether these restrictions impacted on the Waste Authority and sponsorship and committed to provide appropriate advice to the Chairman.

The Authority considered the draft sponsorship policy and agreed to release it for a six week public comment period (following minor amendments), via attachment to the minutes and the *Towards Zero Waste Website*. It was agreed that the draft sponsorship policy would apply as a 'guideline' until it is formally adopted by the Authority.

#### **RESOLUTIONS OF DISCUSSION:**

##### **The Authority:**

- 8.4.1 Agreed to release the draft sponsorship policy for a six week public comment period (following minor amendments as discussed during the meeting) via attachment to the minutes and the *Towards Zero Waste Website*.**
- 8.4.2 Agreed that the draft sponsorship policy would apply as a 'guideline' until it is formally adopted as a policy, following the public comment period and subsequent review.**
- 8.4.3 Agreed that sponsorship proposals would be considered by the Authority three times per year.**
- 8.4.4 Sought feedback from DEC on potential constraints on Government advertising and promotion, which may extend to activities of the Waste Authority and include sponsorship.**

#### **8.5 Sponsorship Proposal – WA Environment Awards 2009**

The Authority has been invited to continue its partnership with DEC by providing corporate sponsorship of the WA Environment Awards in 2009 for the *'Resource and Waste'* category at a cost of \$10,000.

In considering the proposal, the Authority discussed whether it wishes to continue to sponsor an annual award of this nature and the appropriateness of the forum. Members agreed that the waste message is somewhat lost within the scope of the Environment Awards due to the strong focus on conservation.

Members considered alternative forums for a waste award such as the Banksia Awards, but agreed that the scale of these awards also sees the waste component pale in comparison to the strong conservation focus. Members expressed a strong interest in supporting a local 'waste industry

award' for innovation in waste management and recycling at the annual Waste & Recycle Conference held in Perth.

Members agreed that the Authority would support the WA Environment Awards for 2009, but agreed to give notice that it intends to develop a separate Award through the annual Waste & Recycle Conference in the future.

**RESOLUTIONS OF DISCUSSION:**

**The Authority:**

**8.5.1 Agreed to support the WA Environment Awards for 2009 as a Corporate Sponsor to the value of \$10,000.**

**8.5.2 Agreed to give notice to DEC that it intends to develop a separate Award through the annual Waste & Recycle Conference in the future.**

**8.6 Report on Strategic Waste Management Plans for Local Government**

DEC informed the Authority of the current status, achievements and outcomes to date from the *Zero Waste Plan Development Scheme* for local government. Members noted the following key issues regarding the scheme:

- The program has been successful in achieving a high level of voluntary participation of local governments.
- There are contrasting waste management challenges and aspirations between regional and metropolitan environments.
- The *Zero Waste Plan Development Scheme* allowed great flexibility of the format and content of *Strategic Waste Management Plans*. While this gave participants freedom to identify and address waste management issues in a manner that best suited local needs, the lack of uniformity hindered meaningful comparison between *Strategic Waste Management Plans* and is likely to add complexity to future monitoring of local government performance in implementing their plans.
- The current 12 month *Regional Funding Program* funding component is not encouraging local governments to implement long-term waste strategies and actions identified within their *Strategic Waste Management Plans*.
- *Regional Funding Program* funding allocated on the basis of population size disadvantages regional population centres which cannot achieve the economies of scale to efficiently divert resources from landfill to alternative markets.

**RESOLUTIONS OF DISCUSSION:**

**The Authority:**

**8.6.1 Noted the current status, achievements and outcomes to date from the *Zero Waste Plan Development Scheme* for local government in the context of potential future directions for the program.**

**8.6.2 Agreed that at the conclusion of the *Zero Waste Plan Development Scheme* (at the end of December 2009), that an independent review be undertaken to assess the value of the program in accordance with the waste strategy (outlining successes, weaknesses, recommendations etc).**

## **8.7 Draft Waste Strategy - Update**

Members were informed that the Minister's Office has provided suggested minor amendments to the Draft Waste Strategy, which have been incorporated into the revised Strategy (provided at Attachment 1 of the briefing).

The Chairman informed that the changes made included allowing for Legislative changes. He advised that the minor alterations made are consistent with previous approvals of the Authority.

The Chairman advised that the Appendices for *Waste Calculations* and *Landfill Classes and Waste Types* has been removed from the document, but will be cross referenced to the document which refers to them. The Authority agreed that the appendices should be turned into technical data information to provide background information in support of the Strategy, and should be read in conjunction with the Draft Waste Strategy. Members agreed that the technical information should be available from the Towards Zero Waste Website.

The Authority considered the revised Draft Waste Strategy and made minor amendments to it during the meeting. The Authority agreed that the Deputy Chair be delegated responsibility for finalising the Draft Waste Strategy in accordance with the discussion, forwarding it to the Minister and briefing the Minister as required.

The Authority also considered Attachment 2 which provided a list of key tasks required for the Strategy and outlined a proposed approval process. The Authority agreed with the proposed approvals process. It was agreed that the Chairman would be responsible for approving all media releases, feature articles and newsletter items for publication.

### **RESOLUTIONS OF DISCUSSION:**

#### **The Authority:**

- 8.7.1 Agreed with the proposed amendments to the Draft Waste Strategy as provided at Attachment 1 of the briefing and determined further minor amendments during the meeting.**
- 8.7.2 Delegated to the Deputy Chair, responsibility for finalising the Draft Waste Strategy in accordance with the discussion.**
- 8.7.3 Following minor amendments being made to the document, agreed that a final copy of the Draft Waste Strategy be provided to the Minister by the Deputy Chair, including briefing the Minister as required.**

## **8.8 Proposed Authority Response to Questions from FORC**

The Waste Authority at its June meeting received a presentation from the Forum of Regional Councils (FORC). During the presentation, FORC Chairman, Cr Doug Thompson outlined 7 key questions on behalf of FORC and sought feedback in writing from the Authority on the questions.

The Chairman provided a suggested response from the Authority (at Attachment 1 of the briefing) and sought input from members to confirm an Authority response. Members discussed some minor edits and endorsed the proposed response subject to minor amendment.

### **RESOLUTION OF DISCUSSION:**

- 8.8.1 The Authority endorsed the proposed response to the Forum of Regional Councils in relation to the Council's questions, subject to minor amendment.**

**ACTION:**

**8.8.2 DEC to finalise response to FORC questions in accordance with the discussion and provide to the Chairman for his consideration and sign-off.**

**9. INFORMATION ITEMS**

**9.1 Update on Used Oil Storage Issues**

DEC informed of the current status of used oil storage issues in Western Australia. DEC advised that while investigations are at an early stage, initial enquiries indicate that alternative storage is available.

DEC advised that in addition to four storage tanks at Shell, Wren Oil has leased two storage tanks at Verve Energy. DEC informed that it understands that Wren intends to export the contents of the Shell tanks in July, enabling the tanks to be completely emptied and cleaned by the end of August.

DEC informed that some tanks have been identified that will provide storage for approximately 6 months of low-grade burner fuel. Although the tanks will be available for storage in the foreseeable future, the used oil cannot be loaded onto ships directly from these tanks, most likely due to the potential for contamination of loading pipelines if pipes are used for oil (as most tank farm operators would require dedicated used oil pipelines to the loading berth).

DEC advised that isocontainers (bladder-filled shipping containers) loaded from trucks could be an alternative to loading ships by pipe, but would be a more expensive option.

DEC advised that it will provide an options paper outlining short, medium and long term options for used oil storage for the consideration of the Authority at its August or September meeting.

The Chairman thanked DEC for its work to date on investigating used oil storage issues. The Authority agreed that a letter be prepared to Wren Oil, advising that the Authority has made preliminary investigations into used oil storage issues and found that there are options available and encourages Wren to pursue these options. The Authority also requested receiving advice in writing from Wren if it believes issues become outside of their capacity to manage and the State is required to take over. The Authority also would like to be kept informed of the progress of the proposed 'lube to lube' facility in Bunbury.

The Authority briefly discussed the Price Waterhouse Coopers report on the *Product Stewardship (Oil) Act 2006*. The Authority agreed to provide feedback on the report as briefly discussed at the meeting, through the Minister in relation to recycled oil burner fuel products exported, not attracting benefits (consistent with product stewardship objectives).

**RESOLUTIONS OF DISCUSSION:**

**The Authority:**

- 9.1.1 Noted the current status of used oil storage issues in WA.**
- 9.1.2 Noted that an options paper outlining short, medium and long term options for used oil storage will be presented to either the August or September meeting.**
- 9.1.3 Agreed to prepare a letter for the Chairman's consideration to Wren Oil in line with the discussion.**

**9.1.4 Agreed to provide a briefing note to keep the Minister informed.9.1.5 Agreed to provide feedback on the Price Waterhouse Coopers report, through the Minister, on the *Product Stewardship (Oil) Act 2006* in line with the discussion.**

## **9.2 E-waste Recycling and Apple E-waste Collection Day**

The Chairman referred to an earlier discussion at item 6 (7.1.2) - Actions from previous meetings regarding the need for DEC to release quotes for consultancy services to prepare the MoU between the Authority and the AIIA as a matter of urgency to ensure Ministerial timeframes for announcements are met.

DEC informed that a draft scope of works for the consultancy to develop the MoU is currently in preparation and is expected to be released soon. Advice from legal services is being sought to ensure the MoU covers all appropriate content. DEC advised that it is working with the AIIA on appropriate terms and conditions.

DEC provided feedback on the Apple e-waste collection days held on 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> June. DEC advised that 9 drop-off sites across Perth were in place, with the sites being visited by nearly 4,000 cars. Over 200 tonnes of material was collected and sent for recycling.

### **RESOLUTIONS OF DISCUSSION:**

#### **The Authority:**

**9.2.1 Noted the progress of the proposed consultancy to develop a MoU between the Authority and the AIIA and requested that this be released as soon as possible.**

**9.2.2 Noted the success of the Apple e-waste collection days held in June.**

## **9.3 Glass Re-processing EOI - Status**

At its June meeting, the Authority provided its in-principle support to fund up to \$1.9 million in support of glass reprocessing in Western Australia, subject to the outcome of site visits to applicants premises, the presentation of a final proposal and the development of a comprehensive legal agreement as required.

The Authority had previously supported Mr Marcus Geisler and Mr Bernard Ryan attending site visits to applicants' premises as part of the assessment process. Mr Geisler and Mr Ryan informed that they had recently visited applicants' premises and provided extensive feedback to the Authority. This information cannot be provided within the minutes due to the assessment process still being underway.

Following feedback from Mr Geisler and Mr Ryan, the Authority determined that further investigations be undertaken with appropriate authorities.

### **RESOLUTIONS OF DISCUSSION:**

#### **The Authority:**

**9.3.1 Noted feedback provided on recent site visits to applicants' premises as part of the glass re-processing EOI assessment process.**

**9.3.2 Agreed that further investigations be undertaken with appropriate authorities.**

#### **9.4 Current Listing of Registered Lobbyists**

The Authority noted the information provided on current lobbyists registered on the State Government's Lobbyist Register at Attachment 1 of the briefing.

#### **9.5 Quarterly Report from WALGA on Household Hazardous Waste Program**

The Authority noted the quarterly progress report from Municipal Waste Advisory Council on the Household Hazardous Waste Program for the period November 2008 to January 2009. The Authority agreed to consider at its next meeting, the recommendations of the report and review payments made under the program for the recycling of materials collected through complementary programs.

#### **RESOLUTIONS OF DISCUSSION:**

**The Authority:**

- 9.5.1 Noted the Third Quarter Report of the Household Hazardous Waste Program (for the period November 2008 to January 2009).**
- 9.5.2 Agreed to consider at its next meeting, the recommendations of the report and review payments made under the program for the recycling of materials collected through complementary programs.**

### **10. CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION**

#### **10.1 Strategic Waste Initiatives Scheme & Community Grants Scheme – Final Reports**

The Authority noted the listing of completed and terminated projects from the following organisations, as provided at Attachment 1 of the briefing:

#### **Final Reports Received for Completed Projects:**

- **West Australian Symphony Orchestra – Symphony in the City (CGS 2008, \$20,000 plus GST).** The West Australian Symphony Orchestra (WASO) promoted the vision of Towards Zero Waste in the lead up to and at the free outdoor orchestral performance in December 2008. It included information about responsible waste management at the event on its website, provided for two *Towards Zero Waste* displays/signage, Zero Waste volunteers to distribute approved promotional material and written and verbal acknowledgement within the concert program encouraging the responsible disposal of rubbish.
- **Brolgas Environment – Community Bio-diesel Plant (CGS 2007, \$20,000 plus GST).** Brolgas proposed to establish a small scale bio-diesel plant to recycle waste cooking oil produced in the East Kimberley. Through the grant, there is now an operational larger capacity cooking oil recycling plant in Kununurra that uses large amount of UCO produced from Argyle Diamond Mine for conversion to bio-diesel. The project was promoted via the print media and radio and led to the company receiving interest for the potential recycling of waste engine oil. Benefits of the bio-diesel plant include production of a renewable product, reduction of waste substances going to landfill and an increased community awareness of waste management.

#### **Project Termination:**

- **Australian Red Cross (Broome Office) – Creative Waste – Recycled Art (CGS 2008, \$20,000 plus GST).** The project was designed to showcase regional indigenous artworks constructed from materials commonly disposed to landfill, inspired by the theme 'Reduce, Reuse, Recycle' to enable communities to understand the value of waste as a resource.

Due to changes in project officers and a current incapacity to allocate resources to the project, funding has been forfeited. It is understood that the Red Cross is keen to re-apply in the future once it has the capacity to allocate required resources.

**RESOLUTIONS OF DISCUSSION:**

**The Authority:**

**10.1.1 Noted the final evaluation project reports received for completed projects from the following organisations:**

- **West Australian Symphony Orchestra – Symphony in the City (CGS 2008); and**
- **Brolgas Environment – Community Bio-diesel plant (CGS 2007);**

**10.1.2 Noted the project termination of a CGS 2008 grant for the Australian Red Cross (Broome Office) for a Creative Waste – Recycled Art project.**

**10.2 Correspondence – Waste Authority/Ministerial**

The Authority noted the list of incoming and outgoing correspondence outlined in the briefing and discussed some items of correspondence.

The Authority considered correspondence received from the Southern Metropolitan Regional Council (SMRC) regarding its dry cell battery recycling program (funded through SWIS) and request for additional funding to support the launch of the program. The program also includes the participation of the Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council, Western Metropolitan Regional Council, Mindarie Regional Council and the Rivers Regional Council.

The Authority determined that it would provide its own publicity for the launch as the Minister has been invited to officiate. While the Authority did not support providing additional support of \$6,304 for the program as sought by the SMRC, it did note that the SWIS grant provided to support the program was for \$80,140 and that an actual and committed expenditure of \$76,169 had been utilised. The Authority therefore determined that the underspent difference of \$3,971 be provided and distributed as the SMRC determines.

The Authority considered correspondence received from the Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council regarding a resource recovery facility for Perth's eastern region. The letter included an overview and update on the facility. The Authority agreed to invite the EMRC to attend the next Authority meeting on 5 August to provide a briefing on the resource recovery facility.

The Authority briefly discussed WALGA's discussion paper on Alternative Waste Technologies (AWTs). Members commented on the quality of the discussion paper and commended WALGA for its work in this regard. The Authority agreed to actively engage with WALGA to further discuss AWTs.

**RESOLUTIONS OF DISCUSSION:**

**The Authority:**

**10.2.1 Noted the list of incoming and outgoing correspondence outlined in the briefing.**

**10.2.2 In relation to the SMRC's dry cell battery recycling program (funded through SWIS), agreed that the underspent difference of \$3,971 be provided and distributed as determined by the SMRC.**

**10.2.3 Did not support an additional allocation of \$6,304 for the SMRC's dry cell battery recycling program.**

**10.2.4 Agreed to provide its own publicity for the launch of the SMRC's dry cell battery recycling program.**

**10.2.5 Agreed to invite the EMRC to attend the August meeting to provide a briefing on the resource recovery facility for the eastern region.**

**10.2.6 Agreed to engage with WALGA to further discuss AWTs.**

**ACTION:**

**10.2.7 DEC to prepare appropriate correspondence to the SMRC, EMRC and WALGA in line with the discussion, for the Chairman's consideration.**

**11. CLOSE**

The meeting closed at 5.50pm.

**12. NEXT MEETING**

The next scheduled meeting of the Waste Authority will be held on 5 August 2009 at DEC's Atrium Office, commencing at the earlier time of 11.00am. The Authority agreed that all future meetings will commence at 11.00am (not 12.00 noon).

**The Authority:**

**12.1 Noted that the next meeting will be held on Wednesday 5 August 2009 at DEC's Atrium Office, commencing at the earlier time of 11.00am.**

**12.1 Agreed that all future meetings will commence at 11.00am.**

APPROVED / APPROVED WITH AMENDMENT



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Jan Grimoldby, Deputy Chair  
**WASTE AUTHORITY**

5 August 2009