



Waste Authority

CONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE WASTE AUTHORITY MEETING

held on Wednesday 2 September 2009
Department of Environment and Conservation
11.00 am – 3.55pm

Meeting No. 10/2009

1. WELCOME, APOLOGIES & INTRODUCTIONS

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr Barry Carbon	Chairman
Ms Jan Grimoldby	Deputy Chair
Ms Carolyn Jakobsen	
Mr Marcus Geisler	
Prof. Paul Hardisty	
Mr Robert Atkins	A/Deputy Director General – Environment, DEC (Delegate for Director General, DEC)

ATTENDEES

Mr Stuart Cowie	A/Director, Strategic Policy & Programs, DEC	Attended between 11.00am – 2.30pm.
Mr Tony Beeson	Manager, WARR Account, DEC	
Ms Jill Lethlean	Manager, Programs, DEC	
Ms Donna Cole	Waste Authority Communications Consultant	For item 7.6 & 8.1
Ms Diane McKinnon	Executive Officer, Waste Authority	Minutes/Actions

APOLOGIES

Mr Bernard Ryan	A/Manager, Waste Management Branch, DEC
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The Chair declared the meeting open at 11.05am and welcomed members and staff to the meeting.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CHAIRMAN

The Chairman advised that he had met with representatives from Local Government regarding the Household Hazardous Waste Program. This item is discussed within item 5 – Report on Actions from previous meetings and item 8.2 – Correspondence.

The Chairman informed members that he had met with the Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Water to discuss issues regarding household hazardous materials in the waste stream. He advised that he would follow the matter up further with the Water Corporation who deal with issues surrounding contaminants entering the waste stream via drainage systems.

The Chairman also advised that he had met with the Chairman of the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) to discuss matters of common interest. This included matters associated with incineration, bio-digestion, alternative waste technologies and heat based ways of managing waste (typically involving the generation of energy). He informed members that the EPA has requested copies of the *Draft State Waste Strategy* and advised that he had accepted an invitation to brief EPA members on the Strategy at an upcoming meeting.

The Chairman advised that the Minister has formally approved the release of the *Draft State Waste Strategy*. He informed that it is likely to be released on 16 or 17 September as part of the Waste & Recycle Conference proceedings. The Chairman acknowledged the efforts of staff to engage the preferred Consultant Change Corporation to undertake consultative works for the Strategy in a strict timeframe. He informed that the Consultant is currently organising printing of the document.

The Deputy Chair briefly discussed the schedule for stakeholder consultations on the Strategy in regional areas; to be held during October. She undertook to provide members with details of the workshops and encouraged members to attend workshops if they were available to do so. The Deputy Chair also informed members that a website would be on-line from 1 October (www.YourSayWasteWA.com.au), established by the Consultants for the Strategy. A locked bag postal address is also being established to receive submissions.

All members confirmed their attendance at the Waste & Recycle Conference on Thursday 17 and Friday 18 September. All members (except the Deputy Chair who would be interstate) also confirmed attendances at the *Draft State Waste Strategy* workshop on 16 September (8.30am – 12.30pm).

As well as the release of the *Draft State Waste Strategy* at the Conference, the Chairman informed of possible further announcements by the Minister at the Conference. The Chairman sought priority assistance from staff to ensure that these items were progressed prior to his meeting with the Minister on 9 September.

The Chairman also sought clarification on whether E-waste MoU documentation had been provided to the Minister seeking her approval. He requested staff to follow this up as a matter of urgency.

Staff expressed concerns regarding funding amounts allocated for the E-waste program and advised that the proposal under-estimates actual funds required. Staff advised that it is crucial that funding be resolved prior to the signing of any Agreement. The Authority re-confirmed its commitment to fund up to \$1.9 million over 3 years (\$750K, \$650K, then \$500K) for the E-waste recycling program.

RESOLUTION / ACTION OF DISCUSSION:

- 3.1 **Chairman/staff to forward copies of the *Draft State Waste Strategy* to EPA members.**
- 3.2 **The Authority noted that the Chairman would brief EPA members on the *Draft State Waste Strategy*.**
- 3.3 **The Authority noted the likely release of the *Draft State Waste Strategy* on 16 or 17 September as part of the Waste & Recycle Conference proceedings.**
- 3.4 **Staff to circulate to members as soon as possible for their confidential information, the final draft copy of the *State Waste Strategy*.**
- 3.5 **Deputy Chair/staff to circulate to members, details of the *Draft State Waste Strategy* workshops in regional areas, scheduled for October 2009.**
- 3.6 **Staff to progress as a matter of urgency, briefings for the Minister seeking her approval for E-waste and the glass remanufacturing plant (ahead of the Chairman's meeting with the Minister on 9 September). The Chairman also requested staff to provide priority assistance in finalising the Agreements for both projects.**
- 3.7 **Chairman to meet with the Water Corporation regarding household hazardous wastes in the waste stream.**
- 3.8 **Staff to register Waste Authority members (as indicated during the meeting) for attendance at the Waste & Recycle Conference and the *Draft State Waste Strategy* Workshop.**

4. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

In relation to resolution 7.18.1 from meeting number 09/2009 held on 5 August 2009, staff informed that clarification has been sought by the WMAA (WA Branch) in relation to the scope for the partnership proposal between the WMAA (WA Branch) and the Waste Authority. The intent of reference to the '*scope include the marketing of organics in Western Australia to complement the work of Compost WA*' was sought.

The Authority confirmed that this was mis-represented within the draft minutes as the two partnership arrangements were clearly for separate initiatives. The Authority agreed that Resolution 7.18.1 from meeting number 09/2009 held on 5 August 2009 read as follows:

'The Authority agreed to allocate \$100,000 for a partnership arrangement with the Waste Management Association of Australia (WA Branch) within the 2009/10 budget (amount discounted due to not being a full financial year), subject to the following:

- the development of an agreement to provide for appropriate KPIs;
- a quarterly report of activity outlining achievements; and
- a review in 6-8 months of overall achievements/outcomes prior to consideration of further support.

RESOLUTION OF DISCUSSION:

- 4.1 **The minutes of the Waste Authority meeting held on 5 August 2009 were confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting subject to a change to resolution 7.18.1 and other minor amendments.**
- 4.2 **Staff to prepare a letter to the WMAA (WA Branch) for the Chairman's consideration, confirming the removal of the promotion of organics from the partnership scope.**

Moved: Ms Grimoldby
Seconded: Ms Jakobsen
CARRIED

5. 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 5 August 2009 meeting:

5.1 Meeting with Minister to discuss the market support scheme for recycling. The Authority queried the status of a briefing note for the Minister, seeking sign-off of the market support scheme. The Chairman advised that the Minister's Office did not have this. Staff were asked to follow-up on the status of the briefing note, which was required for the Chairman's meeting with the Minister on 9 September. Members noted that Mr Geisler would be invited to attend the first 15 minutes of the meeting with the Minister to discuss the scheme.

7.1 Waste Authority Work Plan & Budget 2009/10 – Inclusion of explanatory notes. The Authority queried the status of resolutions for this item. While the revised budget was included for discussion at item 7.1 of the September meeting, members noted that it did not include enough information as previously requested within the explanatory notes and still included reference to out years (which the Authority had asked to be removed). The Chairman requested that the budget be revised accordingly and provided to him in time for his discussion with the Minister on 9 September.

7.3 Household Hazardous Waste Program. The Chairman advised that the revised proposal received from WALGA on the program would be discussed during item 8.2 – Correspondence. In relation to the annual on-line survey to collect information from local governments on waste and recycling services, the Chairman referred to a table demonstrating survey participation rates over the past 2 years. It showed that 26 of 28 metropolitan councils responded to the 2007/08 survey and 75 of 115 non-metropolitan councils participated during the same period.

The Chairman advised of feedback from WALGA regarding survey participation rates. Feedback included the form in which survey information is presented creates some difficulties due to incompatibilities in the way data is collected. The need to have a compatibility of information currently collected by Councils into a compatible format was recognised. He understood that WALGA were keen to establish a small working group to ensure consistencies in the way data information is sought, including the uniformity and compatibility in data sets when dealing with requests at a State, Commonwealth and local government level. Staff advised that they were working collectively with WALGA to resolve issues with data.

7.7 Compost WA - Strategic Partnership Proposal. The Authority agreed at its August meeting to support an extension of the current Compost WA partnership arrangement to 30 June 2010. Members queried why staff was awaiting a quote prior to proceeding, when the Authority had approved a further \$35,000 within the current arrangement. Staff informed that the company may not be able to undertake the works required for \$35,000. The Authority confirmed that it is prepared to allocate only this amount for the additional work. Staff agreed to discuss the matter with Mr Robert Atkins to resolve.

7.8.3 Report on EPHC Teleconference Meeting held 1 September 2009. The Chairman advised of the EPHC Teleconference meeting held on 1 September to progress the National Waste Strategy. He advised that several discussion papers were circulated for urgent input which would inform the Standing Committee and lead to forming the basis of a Policy Statement and National Waste Policy. The Chairman advised that the revised documents were consistent with the *Draft State Waste Strategy*.

Members queried if advice is provided to the Minister by the Authority or department. The Chairman advised that Authority input is included within the department's briefing to the Minister. It was agreed that the EPHC papers for the recent meeting (and all future meetings) would be provided electronically to all members for interest and comment. Members noted that DEC would brief the Minister along the lines of the previous submission on the National Waste Strategy and re-iterate previous advice provided by the Authority to the Commonwealth on the matter.

RESOLUTION / ACTION OF DISCUSSION:

- 5.1 Staff to follow-up on the status of the market support scheme briefing note for the Minister, required by 9 September for the Chairman's meeting with the Minister.**
- 5.2 The Authority noted that Mr Geisler would be invited to attend the first 15 minutes of the meeting with the Minister to discuss the market support scheme.**
- 5.3 Staff to revise the Waste Authority Work Plan & Budget 2009/10 in accordance with the discussion, and provide to the Chairman for his meeting with the Minister.**
- 5.4 The Authority noted the update provided on the annual on-line survey to collect information from local governments on waste and recycling services.**
- 5.5 Staff to circulate to members, all EPHC waste papers for the recent meeting (and all future meetings).**

6. OUT OF SESSION ITEMS (LATE ITEMS)

The following two items although intended to be included as out-of-session items, were included as late items on the meeting agenda:

6.1 Waste Authority Sponsored Positions at Waste & Recycle Conference 2009

The Waste Authority called for expressions of interest on 14 August 2009 for sponsored attendance at the Waste and Recycle Conference 2009 for recipients of grants under recent rounds of the Strategic Waste Initiative Scheme and the Community Grants Scheme. Applications closed on 31 August.

Staff advised that three organisations had nominated for attendance at the Conference via a sponsored position - the YMCA Perth, Technology Assisting the Disabled and The Green Faerie.

The Authority considered the nominations and agreed to support all three organisations as sponsored positions for various parts of the conference as indicated by each organisation. The total cost of the three sponsorships is \$815.

RESOLUTION OF DISCUSSION:

The Authority:

- 6.1.1 Agreed to sponsor the attendance of the YMCA Perth, Technology Assisting the Disabled and The Green Faerie at the Waste & Recycle Conference 2009 to the amount of \$815.00.**
- 6.1.2 Requested staff to prepare letters for the Chairman's consideration to the three organisations, advising of the sponsorship.**

6.2 Sponsorship for a Delegation from Zhejiang Provincial - Department of Housing and Urban-Rural Development to Attend the Waste & Recycle Conference 2009

The Chairman referred to a letter he had received from the Department of State Development (WA) seeking sponsorship from the Authority for a delegation from the Zhejiang Provincial Department of Housing and Urban-Rural Development to attend the Waste & Recycle Conference 2009. A copy of the letter was provided to members at Attachment 3 of Correspondence - Item 8.2.

The Authority noted that the Department of State Development (WA) would cover 50% (AUD\$2005.50) of the registration fees to the Conference for the delegation. Sponsorship of matching funding from the Authority was sought.

The Authority considered the proposal and agreed to support funding to cover up to 50% of the registration fees for the delegates wishing to attend from the Zhejiang Provincial - to a total value of AUD\$2005.50.

RESOLUTION OF DISCUSSION:

The Authority:

- 6.2.1 Agreed to sponsor the attendance of the Zhejiang Provincial Department of Housing and Urban-Rural Development to attend the Waste & Recycle Conference 2009 to the amount of AUD\$2005.50 to cover 50% of registration fees.**
- 6.2.2 Requested staff to prepare a letter for the Chairman's consideration to the Department of State Development (WA) confirming the part-sponsorship.**

7. DISCUSSION / DECISION ITEMS

7.1 Revised Waste Authority Work Plan 2009/10

The Authority discussed a proposed work plan/budget for the 2009/10 financial year at its August meeting. At that time, the Authority adopted the 2009/10 budget as amended, subject to final confirmation of the amended budget by the Chair and Deputy Chair.

Staff advised that some work plan areas and subsequent budget requirements required final confirmation by the Authority. A revised 2009/10 work plan/budget was tabled at Attachment 1 of the briefing for the Authority's final consideration and adoption, prior to seeking the urgent approval of the Minister.

In relation to outstanding areas, the Authority confirmed its position on the following project areas:

2009/10 Waste Authority Work Plan / Budget

Project Title	Project No.	Waste Authority Determination
Operational Activities of the Office of the Waste Authority	5.5	Agreed to establish a total amount of expenditure of \$450,000 for operational expenses for the 2009/10 financial year.
Staffing of the Office of the Waste Authority	5.14	In relation to salary and salary on-costs for staff of the Office of Waste Authority, the Authority agreed to include the amount of \$450,000 for the 2009/10 financial year. This reflects that staff positions would only likely be in place for six months of the current year.
Waste Strategy Implementation	7.1 – 7.9	Agreed to include all areas highlighted as presented, but requested the removal of the out years. Confirmed that \$750,000 is required for E-Waste (7.9) for 2009/10.

The Authority requested staff to remove the 'out years' columns from the 2009/10 work plan/budget and to expand on the explanatory notes for each specific project (in 15 words or less) to show what the project includes. The Chairman sought the revised final 2009/10 budget prior to his meeting with the Minister on 9 September.

The Authority noted that many projects had been approved in the previous financial year and projects are simply a continuation of the previous year. It was also noted that Section 7 (Waste Strategy Implementation) should be covered in the *Draft State Waste Strategy*. The Chairman asked staff to speak to the Deputy Chair if assistance was required to clarify what is needed within the explanatory notes.

RESOLUTION OF DISCUSSION:

The Authority:

- 7.1.1 Adopted the 2009/2010 Budget as proposed, subject to the inclusion of explanatory notes for each project area and other minor amendments discussed during the meeting.**
- 7.1.2 Requested staff to complete amendments to the 2009/2010 Work Plan/Budget as a matter of urgency and provide to the Chairman prior to 9 September.**
- 7.1.3 Noted that the Chairman would meet with the Minister on 9 September to present the 2009/10 Work Plan/Budget for her consideration and approval.**

7.2 Review of AS4454:2003 Compost Standard – Representation on Compost Standards Committee

The Authority discussed at its August meeting, an invitation received from Standards Australia to nominate a representative to sit on the committee reviewing the Australian Standard for Composts, Soil Conditioners and Mulches (AS4454:2003). At that time, the Authority requested further details regarding the committee reviewing the standard, including who was represented on the group, its objectives, an indication of time commitments required and anticipated duration to complete the review.

Staff provided further information on the technical committee, including its role and organisations that had nominated to be represented on the committee. Representative organisations nominated include manufacturers/suppliers, regulatory and controlling bodies, research/academic organisations and testing bodies. This information was provided within the briefing note and attachments.

The Authority discussed the invitation for representation on the committee and its views on this. The Authority determined that it did not want to be represented as such and considered that current representation from Western Australia was adequate to cover issues concerning the review of the Australian Standard.

The Authority requested staff to prepare a draft letter to Compost Australia advising of the Authority's position for the Chairman's consideration (to be copied to WALGA and Dr Harrie Hofstede).

RESOLUTION OF DISCUSSION:

The Authority:

7.2.1 Determined that it did not want to be represented on the Technical Committee reviewing AS4454:2003 – Composts, Soil Conditioners and Mulches.

7.2.2 Agreed that current representation from Western Australia on the Technical Committee was adequate.

7.2.3 Requested staff to prepare a draft letter to Compost Australia advising of the Authority's position in this regard for the Chairman's consideration.

7.3 Progress Towards National Packaging Covenant – Mark III

At its August meeting, the Authority requested a review of the National Packaging Covenant outlining any concerns regarding the government's ongoing partnership with the Covenant.

Staff referred members to Attachment 1 of the briefing, which outlined benefits and non-benefits and core concerns with the Covenant's performance in Western Australia. Staff informed that the new Covenant document is currently being prepared for the consideration of the Environment Protection and Heritage Council in November 2009.

The Authority commended the briefing officer on providing the background paper in a concise and methodical manner. The paper discussed the process to date, where it is currently at and key issues associated with the Covenant in WA.

Members discussed the Covenant and explored the possibility of being in a position to not recommend the signing of Mark III post 2010 if the Covenant does not address state-based recycling targets that would ensure a consistent and equitable performance across the Nation. Members also agreed that support of the Covenant should be dependent on the establishment of the glass reprocessing plant in WA.

The Authority noted that the Covenant post 2010 would be drafted to acknowledge that it co-exists with other regulatory measures that manage the environmental impact of packaging waste. This would mean that commitment to the Covenant would not exclude the introduction of other regulatory measures if the Covenant fails to perform in Western Australia.

The Authority agreed that the discussion paper be provided to the Minister, along with a covering briefing note providing advice on the pros and cons of the Covenant for WA and advice on how the Minister may wish to respond. Within the briefing, members agreed to reinforce previous advice that overarching targets and KPIs for the Covenant should be balanced at a National and State level and weighted accordingly to ensure KPIs are more useful to WA.

RESOLUTION OF DISCUSSION:

The Authority:

- 7.3.1 Noted the information provided in the National Packaging Covenant background paper.
- 7.3.2 Agreed to recommend to the Minister that support of Mark III of the Covenant should be dependent on the establishment of the glass reprocessing plant in WA; and the setting of state-based targets to ensure consistent and equitable performance across the Nation.
- 7.3.3 Agreed to provide the briefing paper to the Minister, along with a covering brief advising of the Authority's views on Mark III as discussed during the meeting.

7.4 Draft Position Statement – Recycled Organics

The Authority re-released for public comment in March 2009 the former Board's *Position Statement on Recycled Organics*. Staff informed that six submissions were received during the comment period which closed on 30 June 2009.

The Authority was provided with a summary of the submissions at Attachment 3 of the briefing. Staff informed that based on the submissions received, a revised *Position Statement* has been prepared for the consideration of members (provided at Attachment 2 of the briefing). A copy of the previous version of the *Position Statement* was provided to members at Attachment 1.

The Chairman informed that the former Board had resolved that its primary role should be to promote the removal of organic material out of landfill. While the Board expressed a preference for source separated organics, this was not absolute. Members discussed their understanding that the 'suitability for use' matter did include acknowledgement surrounding the need to have some restrictions on compost from municipal solid waste. This related to the quality of compost for use on food crops being restricted depending on the types of organics it had derived from.

Members discussed the proposed statement regarding separation at source being the preferred strategy for recovering organic waste; and recycled organics derived from source-separated wastes and single-waste sources being more likely to meet quality requirements for unrestricted use. The unrestricted use status of recycled organics statement outlining that '*...it could also be determined through characterisation, quality processing systems and confirmation of high quality status through ongoing sampling and testing*' was debated by members.

The Authority considered the wording of the 'source separation at source' paragraph highlighted above between the original and revised document. Members agreed that the statement be worded as follows:

'The Authority embraces the notion that separation at source is the preferred strategy for recovering organic waste, particularly garden organics. Composts derived from source-separated organic wastes and single-waste sources are more likely to meet quality requirements for unrestricted use.'

In relation to the restricted use of organics, the Authority agreed that the Statement needs to clearly explain why restricted use is preferred. The requirement for pasteurisation unless the source is clearly identified was highlighted, along with recognition of the technical difficulties and expense in identifying and testing for impurities, therefore requiring compost to be fit for purpose.

The Authority discussed other minor amendments to the Position Statement. These were relayed to staff during the meeting. The Chairman offered to meet with staff to work through revisions required.

RESOLUTION OF DISCUSSION:

The Authority:

- 7.4.1 Agreed that the *Position Statement on Recycled Organics* be revised in accordance with the discussion and presented to the October meeting for approval.**
- 7.4.2 Noted that the Chairman would meet with staff to work through the revised draft in accordance with the discussion.**

7.5 Proposed Authority Response to State Industrial Buffer Policy – WA Planning Commission / Department of Planning

The Western Australian Planning Commission and the Department of Planning released a draft State Planning Policy 4.1 – State Industrial Buffer (Amended) in July 2009 for public comment (closing 14 September 2009). A copy of the draft policy was provided to members. The policy in the main, aims to protect industry or essential infrastructure from encroachment by land uses that would be sensitive to impacts and adversely impact efficient operations.

The Chairman provided a draft submission on the policy to members for consideration. Members discussed absolute exclusions versus something in-between and debated whether two definitions of the buffer zone (core area and outer buffer) were required. It was generally agreed that the policy should allow for occasional exclusions on a case-by-case basis.

It was noted that the definition of sensitive land uses differed to that of the EPA; the latter is understood to be more restrictive.

RESOLUTION OF DISCUSSION:

The Authority:

- 7.5.1 Noted the draft State Planning Policy 4.1 – State Industrial Buffer (Amended) and provided comment on the draft submission.**
- 7.5.2 Agreed that subject to minor amendment, the draft submission be forwarded to the WA Planning Commission by the Chairman prior to 14 September 2009.**

7.6 Waste Authority Media Communications Work Plan

The Chairman introduced Ms Donna Cole, Last Say Communications to members. The Chairman advised the Ms Cole has been contracted as a consultant on a part-time basis to provide communications and publications associated with the landfill levy, particularly through the grants programs.

Ms Cole provided an overview of the work she has undertaken to promote completed projects of both the Strategic Waste Initiatives Scheme and the Community Grants Scheme. This includes reinforcing a positive awareness of the waste levy through media opportunities including local newspapers and radio. Ms Cole provided a copy of an article which appeared in the Melville Times on the launch of the dry cell battery program.

Ms Cole informed that information on the Rockingham Sustainable Living workshops would be promoted in the newspaper within the next week. The workshops provide training on how to use recycled materials for useful craft workshops.

Ms Cole advised that local papers in Fremantle will also feature articles on the Waste & Recycle Conference over the coming weeks.

Members advised that the Mandurah to Bunbury Highway which used a section of recycled roadbase would officially open on 15 September, which may provide some positive promotion activities. The Authority thanked Ms Cole for the good work she was undertaking to promote the positive outcomes of the waste levy through its grants programs.

RESOLUTION OF DISCUSSION:

7.6.1 The Authority noted the work undertaken by Ms Donna Cole on the dissemination of information on positive outcomes of SWIS and CGS projects.

8. CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION

8.1 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:

- **Blue Planet Energy Limited (Bios) – Used Lube Oil to LoNOX Field Trial (SWIS 2008, \$13,500).** Stage 1 of the grant provided for a laboratory test of LoNOX fuel, a fuel which has been developed using a high percentage of waste oil (used lube oil). Tests were conducted on engines and performed to expectation without problem. Previous issues with filter plugging have been overcome by the further development of technology. The brake specific fuel consumption was shown to be in line with projections based on the percentage of water in the test fuel blend. Toxic and greenhouse gas emissions were acceptable and in most cases lower than those for diesel baseline tests. Maximum peak power was down on diesel but Blue Planet achieved acceptable results where maximum power requirements from an engine are up to 75% of rated peak performance.

Blue Planet has received SWIS funding for Stage II of the project in 2009 and is currently preparing to undertake field trials.

- **Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council (EMRC / Southern Metropolitan Regional Council (SMRC) – Household Electronic Waste Study (SWIS 2008, \$35,520 plus GST).** The project involved a study to evaluate electronic waste collection models and assess how they would be applied in Perth by regional councils. The study evaluated available recycling options for electronic waste. The information gained through the study will assist Perth metropolitan regional councils to establish a pilot program for the collection and recycling of electronic waste. A copy of the report findings is available on the EMRC's website – www.emrc.org.au. Key outcomes of the project included:
 - a report produced by Encylce entitled '*Assessment of E-waste Collection Options for Perth.*' The document looks at various e-waste collection models and assesses how they would be implemented in Perth.
 - commitment from the Waste Authority to support the AIIA product stewardship proposal. The report along with other important data collected during the study supported the proposal.
 - collaboration of all metropolitan regional councils on a project for the first time.

- improved e-waste knowledge among regional council and local government officers.
- implementation of at least one permanent e-waste drop-off location in each regional council.
- the project working group successfully engaged Apple Inc to implement an e-waste recycling event in Perth, similar to that provided in other States.
- **Bowman & Associates – Transport Subsidy for Recycled Concrete Base (SWIS 2007, \$30,000 plus GST).** The grant provided funding the facilitation of discussion between the Southern Gateway Alliance (SGA) stakeholders and to subsidise the transport of recycled concrete road base (RCRB) to a test pavement location. A review of the greenhouse gas emissions produced from the processing and delivery of RCRB was undertaken and compared to those emissions from road base made from virgin aggregate.

In May 2009, All Earth Group delivered 952 tonnes of RCRB to the SGA test pavement area in the new Perth Bunbury Highway, located south of Pagononi Road, Karnup. The testing of the final RCRB product occurred in April 2009 revealing that the material was compliant with the modified MRWA specification 501. The pavement was successfully constructed soon after delivery with the pavement displaying compliant characteristics and behaviour during placement.

The review of the greenhouse gas emissions revealed that processing and transporting RCRB to the test pavement section produced fewer emissions than the virgin aggregate even though the RCRB was transported over a greater distance.

RESOLUTION OF DISCUSSION:

8.1.1 The Authority noted the final evaluation project reports received for completed projects from the following organisations:

- **Blue Planet Energy Limited (Bios) – Used Lube Oil to LoNOX Field Trial (SWIS 2008);**
- **EMRC / SMRC – Household Electronic Waste Study (SWIS 2008); and**
- **Bowman & Associates – Transport Subsidy for Recycled Concrete Base (SWIS 2007).**

8.2 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 discussed a letter received from Bowman & Associates regarding a SWIS grant to Gascoyne Development Commission (minuted in the Authority's August meeting). Mr Bowman queried if the Authority intended to facilitate the development of product stewardship for plantation plastics in Western Australia. The Authority had not had an opportunity to consider the matter at this time, but would welcome Mr Bowman's submission as part of the Waste Strategy. The Chairman requested staff to draft a letter advising of this.

The Authority discussed a revised proposal received from WALGA on the Household Hazardous Waste Program, which was provided to members during the meeting. The proposal advised of funding received to date and program expenditure. The program has spent its allocation for the current financial year, and unless additional funds are provided, cannot continue as currently scheduled.

The proposal outlined a preference to reallocate \$1.32 million currently allocated for Household Hazardous Waste Infrastructure, to the operational budget of the program for the 2009/10 financial year. It also suggested a portion of the program's \$1.1 million budget for the 2010/11 period, dedicated to collections, be reallocated to infrastructure.

As the Authority had only received the proposal during the meeting, members agreed that more time to discuss and consider the ramifications of options presented within the revised proposal was required. The Chairman encouraged members to provide to him over the next week, their comments on the proposal. Following this, the Chairman informed that he would seek to meet with WALGA representatives to discuss the revised proposal further.

The Authority agreed that a final decision on the proposal be determined prior to the October meeting.

RESOLUTION OF DISCUSSION:

The Authority:

- 8.2.1 Noted the list of incoming and outgoing correspondence outlined in the briefing.**
- 8.2.2 Requested staff to prepare a draft letter to Bowman & Associates for the Chairman's consideration.**
- 8.2.3 Agreed to provide comments on the revised proposal for the Household Hazardous Waste Program to the Chairman within the next week.**
- 8.2.4 Noted that the Chairman would seek to meet with representatives of WALGA to discuss the revised proposal.**

9. INFORMATION ITEMS

9.1 Quarterly Listing of Consultancies

The Authority noted the information on projects undertaken by consultants for the 2008/09 period as detailed in Attachment 1 of the briefing.

9.2 Overview of EPHC Working Groups and Current Focus

At its August meeting, the Authority requested to receive a regular update on Environment Protection and Heritage Council (EPHC) projects with a view of providing advice to the Minister. Staff provided an overview on the current status of waste projects being undertaken by the EPHC. This included the National Waste Policy, the National Product Stewardship Framework, Computer and Television Product Stewardship, Tyres Product Stewardship, National options for the management of beverage containers, the National Packaging Covenant, plastic bags and compact fluorescent lamps.

The Authority considered the EPHC agenda a priority policy area and requested that it be brought forward on the meeting agenda at all future meetings. The Authority discussed how it could best be briefed on upcoming items on the EPHC agenda, to provide advice to the Minister. Staff outlined the process of how EPHC papers are received and commented on. The Authority agreed that the EPHC Standing Committee Agenda Paper (usually between 2 – 10 pages) be circulated to members, along with the briefing paper prepared by staff for the Director General, DEC.

In terms of the overview of EPHC projects presented in the briefing note, the Authority agreed it provided enough detail.

RESOLUTION OF DISCUSSION:

The Authority:

- 9.2.1 Noted the overview provided on the current status of projects being undertaken by the Environment Protection and Heritage Council and agreed that the level of information provided is sufficient.
- 9.2.2 Requested staff to include all future EPHC briefing papers for discussion at the front of the meeting agenda.
- 9.2.3 Requested to receive a copy of the EPHC Standing Committee Agenda Paper, relevant waste papers and the briefing paper prepared for the Director General DEC to ensure the Authority is informed on all EPHC waste projects at the time these are discussed.

9.3 Status of Used Oil Collection Service for Local Government

The Authority noted an update provided on the used oil collection scheme, which offers local governments and regional councils an opportunity to receive up to 50% rebate of their collection costs if they engage Wren Oil as their used oil recycling contractor. Staff informed that the first claim period of January – June 2009 saw 66 local governments receive collections from Wren Oil. 49 of the councils applied for funding under the scheme.

RESOLUTION OF DISCUSSION:

- 9.3.1 The Authority noted the status of the used oil collection service for local government.

9.4 Revised 2008/09 Financial Report

Staff advised that a line item was incorrect in the previous report presented to the Authority for the budget. This caused an inconsistency between the annual financial report and the figures reported as actuals for the 2008/09 proposed budget. Staff informed that figures provided in the annual financial report was accurate. The total 2008/09 year to date Budget and Expenditure is \$13,140,000. Year to date actuals to 30 June 2009 is \$8,502,171.

The Authority discussed the impact of the non payment of levy funds by one operator and how this is reflected in the budget. As a consequence of proposed changes to the WARR Act come 1 January 2010 (where 25% of monies collected will be set aside for the WARR Account), members discussed unpaid levy monies and considered that this should be treated as the previous WARR Account – and carried forward. Staff informed that the matter would be investigated as part of previous monies paid to the levy.

RESOLUTION OF DISCUSSION:

The Authority:

- 9.4.1 Noted that the 2008/09 financial report presented to the August meeting was correct.
- 9.4.2 Noted that unpaid levy monies would be investigated as part of previous monies paid to the levy.

9.5 Draft State Waste Strategy - Progress

The Authority discussed the *Draft State Waste Strategy* during item 3 – Announcements by the Chairman.

9.6 Waste & Recycle Conference – Waste Authority Forum

The Authority briefly discussed the *Draft State Waste Strategy* workshop at the Waste & Recycle Conference during item 3 – Announcements by the Chairman.

9.7 MoU – Waste Authority / DEC

The Authority noted that the draft MoU was currently with the Director General DEC for his consideration.

9.8 Market Support Scheme - Update

The Authority briefly discussed the market support scheme during item 3 – Announcements by the Chairman.

9.9 E-Waste Recycling Program - Update

The Authority discussed the E-Waste recycling program and the MoU between the Waste Authority and the AIIA during item 3 – Announcements by the Chairman.

9.10 Glass Reprocessing Plant EOI - Status

This matter was briefly discussed during item 3 – Announcements by the Chairman.

9.11 UWA Landfill Social Cost Project - Update

Professor Hardisty advised that a Masters student has now been engaged to commence work on the UWA Landfill Social Cost Project to explore the setting of a socially optimal landfill levy in WA. He advised that the student has 5 years experience with the Australian Bureau of Statistics. The Authority supported the project in late 2008.

RESOLUTION OF DISCUSSION:

9.11.1 The Authority noted the update provided by Professor Hardisty on the UWA Landfill Social Cost Project.

9.12 Establishment of the Office of the Waste Authority - Update

The Chairman advised members of correspondence to the Public Sector Commission in relation to the General Manager position within the Office of the Waste Authority. The letter of support from the Chairman to establish the position as a Level 9 was included with documents provided by DEC to the Commission. Staff informed that the paperwork is expected to be with the Commission between 4 – 6 weeks.

Staff informed that classification assessment reports for the other four positions within the Office of the Waste Authority has progressed to People Services in DEC. The documentation is required to go through the Classification Review Committee which meets monthly.

RESOLUTION OF DISCUSSION:

9.12.1 The Authority noted the update provided on the establishment of positions for the Office of the Waste Authority.

10. CLOSE

The meeting closed at 3.55pm.

11. NEXT MEETING

The next scheduled meeting of the Waste Authority will be held on 7 October 2009 at DEC's Atrium Office, commencing at 11.00am.

Professor Hardisty informed members that he would be travelling outside of Western Australia during October, November and December 2009, making it difficult for him to attend scheduled meetings. He asked members if it would be possible to change either the October or November meeting date to ensure he could attend at least one meeting.

The Authority agreed to move its November meeting to 11 November 2009 (previously scheduled for 4 November) to commence at 11.00am.

Staff informed that a Landfill Levy Inspector has been appointed for the interim period. Mr Jim Donis replaces Mr Alan Hessey in this position. Staff advised that Mr Donis has been an experienced inspector for some time, most recently working as a controlled waste inspector.

RESOLUTION OF DISCUSSION:

The Authority:

- 11.1 Noted that the next scheduled meeting would be held on Wednesday 7 October 2009 at DEC's Atrium Office, commencing at 11.00am.
- 11.2 Agreed to move its November 2009 meeting from 4 November to 11 November commencing at 11.00am.
- 11.3 Noted that Mr Jim Donis has been appointed as the Landfill Levy Inspector for the interim period.

APPROVED / APPROVED WITH AMENDMENT



Barry Carbon, Chairman
WASTE AUTHORITY

7 October 2009