



## Waste Authority

# CONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE WASTE AUTHORITY MEETING

held on Wednesday 11 November 2009  
Department of Environment and Conservation  
11.00 am – 4.00 pm

Meeting No. 14/2009

## 1. WELCOME, APOLOGIES & INTRODUCTIONS

### MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr Barry Carbon	Chairman	
Ms Jan Grimoldby	Deputy Chair	
Prof. Paul Hardisty		
Mr Marcus Geisler		
Ms Carolyn Jakobsen	Left meeting at 3.50pm	
Mr Robert Atkins	A/Deputy Director General – Environment, DEC (A/Delegate for Director General, DEC)	Attended meeting between 11.55am – 3.00pm.

### ATTENDEES

Mr Stuart Cowie	A/Director, Strategic Policy & Programs, DEC	Attended meeting between 3.00pm – 4.00pm.
Mr Bernard Ryan	A/Manager, Waste Management Branch, DEC	
Dr Jill Lethlean	Manager, Programs, DEC	
Mr Tony Beeson	Manager, WARR Account, DEC	
Ms Diane McKinnon	Executive Officer, Waste Authority	Minutes/Actions

### APOLOGIES

The Chair declared the meeting open at 11.30am and welcomed members and staff to the meeting.

## 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

**Carolyn Jakobsen** – In relation to correspondence received from the Chairman of the Swan River Trust at correspondence item 8.2, Ms Jakobsen advised that she is a member of Swan River Trust.

**Barry Carbon** – Advised members that as of 16 November 2009, he is appointed to a position with a resources company (*appointment subsequently announced 16 November 2009 as Chairman, Bauxite Resources Limited*). The Chairman advised that he had previously met with the company in his capacity as Chairman, Waste Authority to explore opportunities to back-load recyclables via

road and rail to Perth. The Chairman advised that he would seek another member of the Authority to continue with these discussions if the matter comes back to the Authority.

### 3. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CHAIRMAN

**Waste Authority Annual Report 2008/09.** The Chairman advised that the Waste Authority Annual Report for 2008/09 has been completed and forwarded to the Minister. He informed that the report has been submitted by the Minister, and awaits tabling. The Chairman commended the noble efforts of Tony Beeson, Donna Cole and Jill Lethlean (in Bernard Ryan's absence) in progressing the report within tight timeframes.

**Glass Facility Contract with Colmax Glass.** The Chairman informed members that a glass facility contract has been signed with Colmax Glass. He informed of the Minister's announcement of the new glass facility at a launch held on 4 November 2009. Members were provided with a copy of the Minister's Media Statement. Colmax Glass intends to commence construction of the facility towards the end of the year, with the first recycled production beginning in the first half of 2010.

**19<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Environment Protection and Heritage Council (EPHC) - 5 November 2009.** The Chairman briefly advised members of the outcome of various waste management matters discussed at the EPHC meeting held in Perth. A copy of the Communiqué for the 19<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the EPHC was provided to members during the meeting, which outlined meeting outcomes in the areas of National Waste Policy, E-Waste and Tyre Product Stewardships, Beverage Container Investigation and the National Packaging Covenant. The Chairman advised members of his discussions with the Australian Information Industry Association (AIIA) regarding e-waste during the lead up to the EPHC meeting. The Authority noted that the Commonwealth under the new product stewardship legislative framework, will implement regulation to support an industry led scheme that will collect and recycle end of life televisions and computers.

**Meeting with Chair of the National Packaging Covenant Council.** The Chairman advised members of his recent meeting with Mr Stuart McConnell, Chair of the NPC Council. A copy of the presentation provided by the NPC Chair was circulated to members, which outlined an overview of the Covenant to date.

Members discussed the importance of having an ability to set regional/jurisdictional targets in conjunction with global targets and briefly discussed the need to look at other mechanisms to allow for fairer outcomes to outlying States such as Western Australia under the new Covenant (Mark III).

The Authority noted that Western Australia is pressing for membership on the working group responsible for drafting the new Covenant, along with mechanisms to encourage better consideration of lower population States. The Authority noted that the Chairman would be discussing issues surrounding the NPC further with the Minister.

**Waste Authority 2009/10 Work Plan / Budget.** The Chairman informed members that a few additional details were required by the Minister's Office and that these would be provided directly by officers to the Minister's Office. Members noted that it was likely that the Minister would sign-off components of the Work Plan that she is prepared to sign for this year at this time or authorise the full Work Plan / Budget in the near future. Officers informed that the internal process of paying outstanding accounts has commenced, with re-coups to be sought from the WARR Account following sign-off of the Work Plan / Budget by the Minister.

**Draft Waste Strategy Workshop – Port Hedland.** The Chairman advised members of low numbers registered to attend the Port Hedland Draft Waste Strategy Workshop on 17 November. Due to the number of officers exceeding the number of participants, the Authority agreed to cancel the workshop. The Chairman agreed to be available for an interview on ABC local radio in place of the workshop.

The A/Deputy Director General Environment, DEC arrived at the meeting at 11.55am as the Director General DEC's delegate. Mr Robert Atkins provided his apologies for being late.

**RESOLUTION OF DISCUSSION:**

**The Authority:**

- 3.1 Noted that the Chairman would include for discussion at his next meeting with the Minister, matters surrounding Mark III of the National Packaging Covenant.**
- 3.2 Agreed to cancel the Port Hedland Draft Waste Strategy Workshop scheduled for 17 November 2009 due to low registrations.**
- 3.3 Noted that the Chairman would be available for an interview on ABC local radio in lieu of the cancelled Port Hedland workshop.**

**4. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

Members noted that the minutes of the Waste Authority meeting held on 7 October 2009 included a copy of the Waste Authority Sponsorship Policy and the Position Statement on Recycled Organics. The Chairman thanked the efforts and patience of officers who met with him to finalise the Position Statement on Recycled Organics.

**RESOLUTION OF DISCUSSION:**

- 4.1 The minutes of the Waste Authority meeting number 13/2009 held on 7 October 2009 were confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.**

**Moved:** Ms Grimoldby  
**Seconded:** Mr Geisler  
**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 item required clarification during the meeting:

**Actions from 7 October 2009 meeting:**

- 7.3.2 DEC Indirect Overhead Costs 2009/10 Re-coup.** The Authority queried if the full amount of DEC indirect overhead costs for providing support to the Waste Authority for 2009/10 had been re-couped from the WARR Account. Officers confirmed that the re-coup was for the 2008/09 period, not 2009/10. The Authority agreed that for the 2009/10 period, quarterly up-front payments should be made available for KABC and Waste Wise Schools program areas.

**Actions from 5 November 2008 meeting:**

- 8.3.1 Use of C&D Waste in Civil Works Projects.** The Authority discussed the need for officers to give priority to actioning the resolution whereby the Authority agreed to an approach to increase the use of recycled C&D waste in civil works projects through the development of a model by-law, a model local law for the WARR Act and the development of model tender criterion in building/demolition contracts. Members advised that the matter was raised in

recent Draft Waste Strategy consultations and agreed that it would provide important policy tools and should be pursued as soon as possible.

The Chairman advised that the need to progress this work has also been raised by the Minister, along with the need to make it happen as a first step in the State Waste Strategy. The Chairman advised that he would follow up on the development of a brief for this work as soon as possible.

**RESOLUTION OF DISCUSSION:**

**The Authority:**

- 5.1 Agreed that quarterly up-front payments should be made available for KABC and Waste Wise School program areas for the 2009/10 period.**
- 5.2 Noted that the Chairman would follow up on the development of a brief for progressing the use of C&D waste in civil works projects.**

**6. OUT OF SESSION ITEMS**

Nil.

**7. DISCUSSION / DECISION ITEMS**

**7.1 Waste Authority Work Plan/Budget 2009/10**

The Authority noted the current status of the 2009/10 Waste Authority Work Plan / Budget, which currently awaits the approval of the Minister. Officers informed the Authority of difficulties in delivering some programs within the Work Plan as a consequence of the inability to expend funds from the WARR Account.

The Authority queried why a briefing on the 2009/10 Work Plan / Budget had been brought back to the Authority, following the direction provided by the Authority at its September meeting. Officers discussed the need to develop an agreed timetable for the Authority to present a Work Plan / Budget to the Minister, by March each year to avoid future delays. The Authority agreed with the need to establish timeframes and agreed that this would be looked at specifically within the scheduled business planning days for the Waste Authority in 2010.

Officers noted that it was previously agreed that the Chairman would discuss with the Minister, her expectations of what should be contained within the business plan. The Authority noted that advice it requested on the respective roles and responsibilities of the Minister for approvals of projects under the work plan is still outstanding.

**RESOLUTION OF DISCUSSION:**

**The Authority:**

- 7.1.1 Noted the current status of the 2009/10 Waste Authority Work Plan / Budget.**
- 7.1.2 Agreed to discuss the establishment of timeframes for the presentation of future Work Plan / Budgets to the Minister, at its scheduled business planning days in 2010.**
- 7.1.3 Noted that officers would follow-up on the status of advice for the Minister in relation to respective roles and responsibilities for approvals of projects under the work plan.**

## **7.2 Financial Report – First Quarter 2009/10**

Officers informed on the levels of expenditure and revenue for the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery (WARR) Account for the first quarter of the 2009/10 financial year. Officers advised that expenditure and revenue are both lower than expected due to delays in approval of the work plan, delays in the commencement of projects and reductions in waste disposal levels. A summary of project payments from the WARR Account and a cash position from 1 July to 30 September 2009 was provided at Attachment 1 of the briefing. Cash as at 30 September 2009 is \$15,754,251.

While the Authority noted the first quarter financial report presented at the meeting, the Authority agreed that the report be updated and presented to the December meeting, following the imminent approval of the work plan. It was noted that the expenditure of many projects would be adjusted as a consequence.

Officers advised the Authority of landfill levy quarterly returns for the July – September 2009 period. The total amount of levy received was \$3,059,027.33, \$252,379.50 more than the previous quarter. The inert component of revenue was 12%, and putrescible component 88% (last quarter was 19% inert and 81% putrescible).

The Authority agreed that a discussion on possible major projects for the 2010/11 financial year would be held at the December meeting. The Authority agreed that these would be further explored at the February 2010 meeting. Members were encouraged to put forward possible topics for discussion at the December meeting.

### **RESOLUTION OF DISCUSSION:**

#### **The Authority:**

- 7.2.1 Noted the information provided in the first quarter financial report for 2009/10 and agreed that the report be updated and presented to the December meeting, following the imminent approval of the Work Plan.**
- 7.2.2 Noted the information provided on the quarterly landfill levy returns for the July – September 2009 period.**
- 7.2.3 Agreed to discuss at the December meeting, possible major projects for the 2010/11 financial year.**

## **7.3 SWIS/CGS Recommendations – Round 2, 2009**

The Waste Authority Assessment sub-committee considered applications received for the second round of the Strategic Waste Initiatives Scheme (SWIS) and the Community Grants Scheme (CGS) in late October. 25 applications for SWIS and 17 applications for CGS were received. Sub-committee recommendations for SWIS and CGS were provided to members at Attachments 1 and 2 of the briefing.

The sub-committee reserved its opinion on two SWIS applications due to the complexity of projects and referred these to the Authority for full consideration.

The Authority discussed the requirement of local governments to complete survey forms on an annual basis to be eligible to receive any funding provided by the Authority, as resolved at the June 2009 meeting. The Authority discussed the impact of this on two applications received. It was determined that these could be managed within the grant funding contract.

The Authority noted the significant number of applications received from universities for research and development (R&D) projects in recent rounds of SWIS. The Authority discussed the concept of allocating a fixed amount in each funding round specifically for university R&D projects. The Authority agreed that a notional amount of \$150,000 be provided to support research academia as a sub-set within SWIS. Members briefly discussed the need for universities to put forward a priority project for possible funding, rather than submitting multiple projects.

The recommendations of the Waste Authority Assessment sub-committee for the allocation of grant funding for Round 2, 2009 of SWIS as provided at Attachment 1 of the briefing was supported by the Authority. The Authority supported the deferral of one project pending further discussion with the applicant. It was agreed that this proposal would be determined by the Chairman out-of-session.

The recommendations of the Waste Authority Assessment sub-committee for the allocation of grant funding for Round 2, 2009 of CGS as provided at Attachment 2 of the briefing was supported by the Authority.

Officers thanked Ms Grimoldby and Ms Jakobsen for their work on the sub-committee panel and their thanks was reciprocated to officers for their sterling efforts.

#### **RESOLUTION OF DISCUSSION:**

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

- 7.3.1 Supported the recommendations of the Waste Authority Assessment Sub-committee for the allocation of grant funding for Round 2, 2009 of SWIS as provided at Attachment 1 of the briefing, subject to the agreed actions for three projects as discussed during the meeting.**
- 7.3.2 Agreed that the undetermined SWIS application would be resolved out-of-session by the Chairman, following further discussion with the applicant.**
- 7.3.3 Agreed that a notional allocation of \$150,000 be provided to support research academia as a sub-set within SWIS for future rounds.**
- 7.3.4 Supported the recommendations of the Waste Authority Assessment Sub-committee for the allocation of grant funding for Round 2, 2009 of CGS as provided at Attachment 2 of the briefing.**

#### **7.4 Waste Management Association of Australia (WMAA) – Strategic Partnership Proposal Scope**

At its September meeting, the Waste Authority requested to receive a detailed proposal from the Waste Management Association of Australia (WMAA) for a strategic partnership proposal for the 2009/10 financial year. A detailed proposal was provided at Attachment 1 of the briefing.

The Authority discussed the WMAA's scope to include identifying environmental and social impacts for various alternative waste treatment (AWT) technologies, including planning issues, performance parameters and operational risks. The Authority acknowledged the significant work already undertaken by various metropolitan regional councils in this regard and agreed that the WMAA should focus its efforts on investigating related type matters specific to the non-metropolitan area.

Ms Jakobsen requested to receive a copy of the Welker review of Part V of the Environmental Protection Act in 2003 and the Environmental Impact Assessment review.

**RESOLUTION OF DISCUSSION:**

**The Authority:**

- 7.4.1 Supported the scope of the Waste Management Association of Australia's Strategic Partnership Proposal, subject to the investigation of AWT matters being specific to non-metropolitan areas only.**
- 7.4.2 Endorsed the expenditure of \$100,000 (excluding GST) for the WMAA's Strategic Partnership Arrangement for the 2009/10 financial year.**

**7.5 Compost WA – Strategic Partnership Proposal Scope**

At its October meeting, the Waste Authority received a presentation from Compost WA on a Strategic Partnership Proposal and requested further information from Compost WA prior to determining its position on the strategic partnership arrangement.

Compost WA provided further details as required in its letter to the Authority of 4 November 2009. Members considered the additional information during the meeting.

**RESOLUTION OF DISCUSSION:**

**The Authority:**

- 7.5.1 Noted the additional information provided by Compost WA in relation to its proposed strategic partnership proposal scope.**
- 7.5.2 Agreed that officers proceed to progress drafting formal partnership agreement documentation between Compost WA and the Waste Authority.**

**7.6 E-Waste – Request for Funding**

Officers referred to a request from a local council to support a one-off e-waste collection service to complement a planned household hazardous waste collection in December.

The Authority noted a previous request from a local council which was not supported due to an overall e-waste collection scheme being favoured to provide broad support across the board and longer term security to local government. The Authority also agreed that supporting requests for funding would create expectations for similar support to be applied in other local government areas, which the Authority could not afford. The Authority agreed at that time that the AIIA e-waste collection program is the only program that would be supported at this time.

**RESOLUTION OF DISCUSSION:**

**The Authority:**

- 7.6.1 Did not support a request from a local council for a one-off e-waste collection service.**

**7.7 Local Government Data**

Officers informed of the annual survey of local government waste and recycling services, the information of which is used to support policy and program development and fulfil various annual reporting obligations. Officers advised that the 2008/09 local government survey has seen only a 25% response rate from local government, which is insufficient to enable the completion of data reporting requirements. It represents only 44% of the population coverage.

The Chairman highlighted commitments received from WALGA that this issue would be managed accordingly. A small working group with officers and representatives from WALGA was established to ensure consistencies in the way data information is sought, including its uniformity and compatibility in data sets when dealing with requests at local, State and Commonwealth levels.

Officers advised that the form to collect data had been developed in conjunction with WALGA and was the same form used to collect 2007 data which received a 91% response rate.

The Authority requested to receive a full listing of all local governments that had and had not responded to the 2008/09 survey. Officers advised that 14 metropolitan, 21 non-metropolitan and one regional council had responded.

Mr Robert Atkins left the meeting at 3.00pm. Mr Stuart Cowie arrived at the meeting at 3.00pm as Mr Atkins departed.

#### **RESOLUTION OF DISCUSSION:**

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

**7.7.1 Requested to receive from officers, a full listing of all local governments that had and had not responded to the 2008/09 local government data survey.**

**7.7.2 Noted that the Chairman would raise the matter with WALGA as part of his meeting with them, to discuss the Household Hazardous Waste program.**

#### **7.8 Zero Waste Plan Development Scheme & Regional Funding Program Update**

The Authority received an update from officers on the progress of the Zero Waste Plan Development Scheme and the Regional Funding Program. Both programs are scheduled to be finalised by the end of December 2009. Members received information on the breakdown of payments made under both schemes.

Officers referred to two outstanding payments which in both instances, referred to the Strategic Waste Management Plans not being submitted under the Scheme within the extended cut-off date. Both entities wrote to the Minister seeking further extensions due to extenuating circumstances. The Minister subsequently requested the Authority to consider the request for one of the councils. The other council met with an officer to discuss the progress of its Strategic Waste Management Plan.

The Authority discussed the previous gazettal under the Environmental Protection Act of deadlines for approval of applications. The Authority requested a briefing for the Minister on how her objectives could be implemented. The Authority agreed that appropriate advice is required to determine where this matter sits.

The Authority discussed feedback from some regional workshops regarding regional local councils not being aware of the end of year deadlines for the Zero Waste Plan Development Scheme and the Regional Funding Program. The Authority explored various mechanisms to provide reminders to local councils regarding the deadline. The Authority agreed that the Chairman would submit an article for publication in the bulk WALGA newsletter which is distributed to all local councils across the State. It was also agreed that a letter would be provided to CEOs of all local councils informing of the deadline. Officers agreed to provide a draft article and letter to the Chairman for his consideration.

**RESOLUTION OF DISCUSSION:**

**The Authority**

- 7.8.1 Agreed that the request for extensions from two local councils be referred back to the Minister for determination, in accordance with Ministerial conditions outlined within the Gazettal notice.**
- 7.8.2 Agreed that appropriate advice be sought to clarify how the Minister could achieve her objectives for late applicants.**
- 7.8.3 Agreed to submit an article in the WALGA newsletter reminding local councils of the end of year deadlines for the Zero Waste Plan Development Scheme and the Regional Funding Program.**
- 7.8.4 Agreed to provide a letter to all CEOs of local councils informing of the deadline.**

**7.9 Staff Issues - Confidential**

Discussion pertaining to this matter is confidential and cannot be provided within the public minutes.

**7.10 Discussion on Draft Waste Strategy Workshops**

The Authority noted a project status report provided by CSG, the consultants undertaking the draft Waste Strategy public consultation. 8 workshops have been held to date. The report outlined the number of attendees at workshops, organisations represented and a brief description of the main themes coming from workshops and on-line submissions.

**RESOLUTION OF DISCUSSION:**

- 7.10.1 The Authority noted the project status report provided by CGS on the draft Waste Strategy.**

**8. CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION**

**8.1 Strategic Waste Initiatives Scheme & Community Grants Scheme – Final Reports**

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

**Terminated Projects:**

- **Specialist Polymers Associated Manufacturers – Trial and assessment of variable mix of waste plastic feedstock (SWIS 2009, \$30,000 plus GST).** The overall process involved collection and sorting of waste plastics, milling and processing of sorted plastic (or a combination of plastics) for the manufacture of drainage and irrigation piping, bollards and other products.

The applicants requested the project be cancelled in September 2009. No work was undertaken and the cheque was cancelled.

**Final Reports Received for Completed Projects:**

- **Green Skills (Denmark) – Shed for the Denmark Tip Shop (CGS 2008, \$15,525 plus GST).** Green Skills Tip Shop has been running successfully since 2001. Its popularity has grown rapidly in recent years and it has reached a point where it needed additional dry storage area. A shed with a concrete floor and an open side was installed to protect shop stock from the

weather. A transportable office was also installed beside the shed for staff, and storage space. Green Skills also recently received funding from Lotterywest to install further environmental facilities at the site, such as a rainwater tank and compost toilet.

- **Midland Brick – Transport & Pulverising Subsidy (post consumer glass trial) (SWIS 2008, \$11,580 plus GST).** Glass has been demonstrated to improve several significant properties of clay bricks in multiple trials (Europe, Eastern Australia). This project is for the logistics of transporting glass from Red Hill to a processor and on to Midland Brick for use in a trial.

Given the results from the glass addition trials, Midland Brick is confident that glass fines can be incorporated into some products. Unfortunately the theoretical operational benefits and product enhancements that were expected from glass addition were either marginal or not observed at all. Therefore Midland Brick concludes that at present, the cost benefits of glass addition is not sufficient to offset the operational risk, required capital.

- **WALGA – Recycled Products in Local Government Construction and Maintenance Activities (SWIS 2008, \$60,500 plus GST).** This project produced a local government Policy Position/Framework which will identify the drivers and inhibitors (supply and demand) for Local Government to use recycled materials in roads, paths and other appropriate infrastructure and an action plan to support the frameworks implementation. In 2008, ARRB Group was awarded the contract to conduct this research. The report was handed to WALGA for comment in September 2009.

The report illustrates that recycled C&D waste can be successfully used in road construction and maintenance. Covering relevant literature and recent tests, the report concludes that the concrete produced from recycled commingled road-base is indistinguishable from that made of new materials. It is highly workable, gives a high standard of finish, and is cheaper to manufacture. The research highlighted a number of inhibitors to the use of recycled materials in road construction by Local Governments. These included:

1. Lack of confidence in the product (and recycled materials in general).
2. Recycling is seen as unprofitable.
3. Local Government tender documents are keeping recyclers out of the market.
4. Contractors and plant operators need to be educated in regards to the possibilities of recycled materials.

The main hurdle faced throughout the project related to the development of the report, as WALGA were not happy with the quality of the report and are in negotiation with the consultants to successfully complete the project.

In relation to this project, members commented that the report did not indicate any problems with the provision of stock. The Authority also noted that WALGA is not happy with the quality of the report, and queried if WALGA required any assistance from the Authority in this regard. Members also advised that they had not seen the Local Government policy position or framework referred to for this project and advised of the need to look at ways to follow this up. Officers committed to follow-up on members comments accordingly.

#### **RESOLUTION OF DISCUSSION:**

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

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

- **Green Skills (Denmark) – Shed for Denmark Tip Shop (CGS 2008);**

- Midland Brick – Transport & Pulverising subsidy (post consumer glass trial) (SWIS 2008); and
- WALGA – Recycled Products in Local Government Construction & Maintenance Activities (SWIS 2008).

**8.1.2 Sought feedback from officers on the WALGA project in relation to the policy position framework for the use of recycled products in local government and other matters as discussed during the meeting.**

**8.1.3 The Authority noted the project termination for Specialist Polymers Associated Manufacturers - Trial and Assessment of variable mix of waste plastic feedstock (SWIS 2009).**

## **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 provided at the meeting.

The Authority acknowledged the Southern Metropolitan Regional Council's (SMRC) recent newsletter, which announced the appointment of the new Chair of the SMRC, Cr Tony Romano. The Authority agreed to send a congratulatory letter to the new Chair.

The Chairman referred to a letter received from DEC of 2 November, in relation to proposed amendments to the Environment Protection (Controlled Waste) Regulations 2004. The Authority briefly discussed the letter and determined that the issue of controlled waste and the controlled waste tracking system was outside the area of its business. The Authority agreed to advise DEC accordingly through a response letter.

The Authority discussed a letter received from WALGA of 26 October regarding the Household Hazardous Waste program and the allocation of funding. He informed that the letter was not received by DEC until 3 November, and Waste Management on 4 November. It requested a response from the Authority by 4 November, prior to WALGA cancelling proposed household hazardous waste temporary collection days. The Chairman informed that he was not aware of the letter until 6 November, on his return from interstate.

The Chairman informed that the status of the temporary collection days is unclear at this time, but from media reports today, would seem to be cancelled due to a lack of funding being provided by the Authority to continue.

The Chairman provided an overview of funds provided by the WARR Account to WALGA to run the program (\$2.2 million with \$1.0 million for operations and 1.2 million for infrastructure). On top of this, an additional \$330,000 was provided to ensure the program could continue to be delivered after WALGA had informed that the costs would be more than first anticipated. More recently, a reallocation of \$1 million put aside for household hazardous waste infrastructure was provided to fund the operations of the household hazardous waste program. These funds were provided to cover the cost of disposal of material collected under the program and the cost of running the temporary collection days. \$200,000 was agreed to remain in the budget for non-metropolitan infrastructure for the 2009/10 period.

The Authority discussed matters regarding the household hazardous waste program for the immediate and long term. The Chairman referred to information provided to him from WALGA showing breakdowns of where funding had been distributed in support of the program. The Authority discussed the overall cost of the program, noting that it was much more expensive than like programs in other parts of Australia.

The Authority determined that in the first instance, it would seek specific details of all monetary commitments expended (actuals) or committed for the program to demonstrate that there is no funds remaining for this year to conduct temporary collections days. The information provided did not clearly clarify this.

The Authority supported the Chairman to meet with WALGA representatives to discuss the matter, including the validation of costings and cost sharing arrangements. The Authority provided its support for the Chairman to commit any available unspent monies within the program to temporary collection days and to negotiate with local governments who wish to conduct collection days this financial year, cost sharing arrangements. In the longer term, the Authority agreed that it should fund up to a certain level, but beyond that, cost sharing arrangements should come into play.

The Authority agreed (*subject to the approval of the Minister*) that a Household Hazardous Waste Committee be established under Section 18 of the WARR Act 2007 to predominantly look at solutions for running the program more effectively. The Committee would be responsible for planning activities and expenditure for the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program for the longer term, with the work of the Committee to be completed by 1 March 2010.

The Authority determined that the terms of reference for the Committee would be as follows:

1. The Committee be chaired by a member of the Waste Authority and comprise of two nominees from WALGA, 1 Waste Authority officer, 1 support officer and possibly industry representation.
2. Review household hazardous waste collection processes in other States.
3. Revise household hazardous waste collection program contract to achieve certainty, agreed outcomes and a process for review.
4. Recommend cost-sharing arrangements.
5. Recommend other product stewardship arrangements for priority materials (the cost of the program).

#### **RESOLUTION OF DISCUSSION:**

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

- 8.2.1 Agreed to send a congratulatory letter to the newly appoint Chair of the SMRC.**
- 8.2.2 Agreed to advise DEC that it would not be making a submission to the proposed amendments to the Environment Protection (Controlled Waste) Regulations 2004.**
- 8.2.3 Supported the Chairman meeting with WALGA to discuss the household hazardous waste collection program, including the validation of costings and cost sharing arrangements.**
- 8.2.4 In consultation with WALGA, supported the Chairman committing any available unspent monies within the household hazardous waste collection program to temporary collection days.**
- 8.2.5 Supported the Chairman negotiating with local governments who wish to conduct collection days this financial year, cost sharing arrangements.**
- 8.2.6 In the longer term, agreed that it would continue to fund the household hazardous waste collection program up to a certain level, but beyond that, cost sharing arrangements should come into play.**
- 8.2.7 Agreed, subject to the approval of the Minister, that a Household Hazardous Waste Committee be established under Section 18 of the WARR Act 2007 to look at solutions for running the program more effectively.**

- 8.2.8** Agreed to a proposed terms of reference for the Household Hazardous Waste Committee as outlined above.
- 8.2.9** Agreed that the deliberations of the Household Hazardous Waste Committee be completed by 1 March 2010.

## **9. INFORMATION ITEMS**

### **9.1 Waste Authority Annual Report 2008/09**

The Authority discussed the Waste Authority Annual Report 2008/09 during item 3 – Announcements by the Chairman.

### **9.2 Current Listing of Registered Lobbyists**

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

### **9.3 E-Waste Recycling Program**

The Authority briefly discussed the E-waste recycling program during item 3 – Announcements by the Chairman.

### **9.4 Glass Reprocessing Plant - Update**

The Authority discussed the Colmax Glass Recycling Facility during item 3 – Announcements by the Chairman.

### **9.5 Establishment of Office of the Waste Authority - Update**

*This item was discussed prior to Mr Robert Atkins departure from the meeting at 3.00pm.*

In relation to the establishment of positions for the Office of the Waste Authority, and in particular, the General Manager position, officers advised that the Department of Premier and Cabinet has made a determination on the level of the position. Officers informed that the letter advising of this has not been received by the department at this time.

#### **RESOLUTION OF DISCUSSION:**

- 9.5.1** Noted the update provided on the establishment of the Office of Waste Authority.
- 9.5.2** Noted that Mr Robert Atkins would provide a copy of the letter from the Department of Premier and Cabinet regarding the determination of level of the General Manager position as soon as it is received by the department.
- 9.5.3** Agreed that all Office of the Waste Authority positions should be advertised as soon as possible following relevant approvals, regardless of the time of year.

## **10. OTHER BUSINESS**

### **10.1 WA Environment Awards – 27 November 2009**

Members noted that the Chairman had previously agreed to attend the WA Environment Awards and present the 'Waste and Resource Award.' He advised members that he may not be able to attend due to being overseas and was currently awaiting confirmation. Mr Marcus Geisler and

Professor Hardisty agreed that they would attend the evening and would be back-up to present the Award if required.

### **10.2 Possible Cocktail Function – Waste Authority**

The Authority briefly discussed hosting a cocktail function with stakeholders following the December Meeting (3 weeks away), possibly between 5 – 7pm. It was agreed that a venue and invitation list would be confirmed.

### **10.3 Public Information Campaign**

The Authority briefly discussed some recent developments which has shown some renewed interest in running a public information campaign, possibly around plastic bags. The Authority noted that the Chairman would be meeting with the Minister to discuss further.

#### **RESOLUTION OF DISCUSSION:**

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

**10.1.1 Noted that the Chairman may not be in a position to attend the WA Environment Awards on 27 November and that Professor Hardisty or Mr Geisler would attend the Awards on behalf of the Waste Authority and present the Waste and Resource Award if required.**

**10.1.2 Agreed that officers proceed with organising a possible cocktail function following the Authority's 2 December meeting.**

**10.1.3 Noted that the Chairman would seek to meet with the Minister regarding the possibility of a public information campaign around plastic bags.**

### **11. CLOSE**

The meeting closed at 4.00pm.

### **12. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Waste Authority will be held on 2 December 2009 at DEC's Atrium Office, commencing at 11.00am in the 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Boardroom, Atrium.

APPROVED / APPROVED WITH AMENDMENT



Barry Carbon, Chairman  
**WASTE AUTHORITY**

2 December 2009