

Actions from 13 September 2007 meeting:

- 5.2 Ministerial Waste Summit – Partnering for Success: The Road to Best Practice.** Michael Kerr advised that he recently met with WALGA through the Officers Advisory Group in which they provided feedback on their views of the Ministerial Waste Summit. Michael undertook to provide the Board with a summary of WALGA's views for their interest.
- 7.1.1 Significant Correspondence – WMRA.** In relation to the promotion of 'good new stories' arising from the finalisation of WMRA grants, DEC advised that discussions with the Communications Manager is well underway to identify news worthy stories.
- 7.10.1 Independent Review of the WMRA.** The Chair advised that he would meet with Mayor Creevey and relevant DEC officers shortly to discuss the way forward with regards to the independent review of the WMRA.
- 9.1 Invitation to attend KABC meeting.** The Chair advised that he attended the KABC meeting held on 20 September and found the meeting very interesting and informative. He is currently in discussions with Mel Hay, the Chair of the KABC regarding the findings of a recent litter survey.

Actions from 9 August 2007 meeting:

- 4.3 Interim Guidelines for Organics Applied to Land.** The Chair advised that he is currently looking at the draft interim guidelines and will provide members with a copy shortly. Once the Board endorses it as an acceptable draft, a public consultation process will commence, starting with WALGA.
- 6.2 Government Purchasing (Civil Works) – Opportunities and Barriers.** In relation to the Chair's commitment to meet with CEOs and executives of key stakeholders in the construction and demolition industry to identify incentives in using recycled products, the Chair advised that this action has been delayed due to the unavailability of a key person who will be joining him in these discussions.

ACTIONS:

- 4.1 DEC to provide Board members with a summary of views expressed by WALGA in relation to the Ministerial Waste Summit.**
- 4.2 Chair to provide status of his discussions with Chair of the KABC regarding the findings of a recent litter survey.**

5. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Nil.

6. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR DECISION

No items for decision were tabled at the meeting.

7. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION AND/OR DISCUSSION**7.1 Significant Correspondence – Waste Management and Recycling Account**

The Board noted that the following final evaluation project report had been received:

- The ATS Unit – Field Report Analysis 2003 - 2006 (Ref: CGS C1119).

7.1.1 Community Grant Scheme (CGS) Project Completion and Final Report

The Board noted the project summary provided for the ATS Unit Field Report Analysis conducted between 2003 – 2006. The report provides improvements that have been achieved in road reserve litter management within the south west corner of WA and comprehensive data on the quantity, volume and composition of litter audited along road reserves.

7.2 Significant Correspondence – Ministerial/Board

The Board noted the status of incoming and outgoing Waste Management Board correspondence as tabled at the meeting in Attachment 1.

The Chair circulated a copy of the Bellevue Sustainable Industries Report produced by the Edith Cowan University's Small to Medium Enterprise Research Centre. He advised that he recently launched the report at Swan Catchment Council's Success Stories Forum, as a result of the report being funded through the WMRA. The report investigates the attitudes and practices of Bellevue business owner-managers to environmental issues and waste management since 2005.

The Board acknowledged a letter received from Ms Jan Grimoldby, CEO of the SEMRC dated 2 October advising of the appointment of Mr Alex Sheridan as the new CEO of the Council as of 1 October.

A copy of a recently released report on Waste Wise Schools case studies was circulated to members during the meeting for their interest.

ACTION:

7.2.1 DEC to draft a letter for the Chair's consideration to Jan Grimoldby, SEMRC in recognition of her contribution to waste management in Western Australia.

7.3 Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Bills

DEC provided a status report on the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Bills. The Bills are likely to be introduced into Parliament shortly.

7.4 Consultancies

The Board noted the imminent release of a Request for Quotation for a Consultancy to undertake a Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Pilot Collection Day.

DEC advised that the pilot collection day will assist in the design of the HHW program and aims to provide estimates of expected volumes of various material types and the costs associated with running a HHW program. The pilot collection day will consist of a temporary drop-off point, to be operated for one day only, to allow residents in one regional council area to drop-off HHW at a local council depot.

DEC advised that previous work carried out in this area indicated that the majority of material collected is of low toxicity, with only small quantities being of a higher toxicity.

The Board briefly discussed its requirements for receiving consultancy briefings and how these should be presented at meetings. Suggestions included consultancies being briefly referenced as part of the Business Plan Project Summary paper, with an attachment providing a listing of consultancies currently underway and specific scope of works if required.

RESOLUTION OF DISCUSSION:

7.4.1 The Board acknowledged the proposed consultancy to undertake a Household Hazardous Waste Pilot Collection Day.

ACTION:

7.4.2 The Chair and DEC to determine the most appropriate manner to provide consultancies to the Board.

7.5 Organics Sub-committee

The Chair of the Board's Organics sub-committee, Graham Slessar provided an update on the work of the sub-committee.

Information on various bin systems across Australia is being collected. Within metropolitan environments in Adelaide, Melbourne and Sydney an 80% recovery rate of greenwaste is occurring due to regular collections and separate bin systems specifically for the collection of greenwaste.

Information on policy and legislation in other jurisdictions with regards to the use of recycled organics is also currently being sought through the sub-committee. This may lead to the commissioning of a separate consultancy to investigate further.

DEC is currently working closely with Compost WA in the area of market development. An opportunity to develop demonstration projects to illustrate the benefits of using recycled organics in Local Government areas is underway. This includes the possibility of re-establishing areas such as parklands, golf courses and road verges.

A report commissioned by DEC on an assessment of markets for recycled organics in WA, was recently presented to Compost WA. The report highlights that the dominant market continues to be urban amenity (82.5%) and that one third of the organisations surveyed in this market do not use recycled organic products, despite an awareness of some of the benefits in doing so.

It was noted that through WALGA's '*Draft Policy Statement for Organics Applied to Land*,' an opportunity exists to encourage a consistent approach across Local Government to boost the demand for recycled organic products through its use on parks, gardens, golf courses, road verges etc. State Government also clearly has a role to play in the promotion and use of recycled organics within the Government sector.

Through her membership on the Swan River Trust, Carolyn Jakobsen reported that she had recently attended a sustainable gardens launch in Guildford. She highlighted that the launch promoted the use of mulch and compost in residential gardens, highlighting that Local Government has a big role to play in this area.

Graham Slessar advised that the Organics sub-committee is currently looking at the '*Assessment of Markets for Recycled Organics in WA*' report with a view of identifying actions from the recommendations contained within the report.

In relation to the NSW organics study, Michael Kerr advised that it will now include sampling at the Southern Metropolitan Regional Council due to a scheduled site in NSW pulling out of the sampling program.

In her capacity as Chair of MWAC, Mayor Creevey advised that she recently met with the Chair of the Organics sub-committee to clarify MWAC's preference of waiting for the release of the NSW study. The inclusion of the SMRC in the sampling process was seen as a step forward by MWAC.

RESOLUTION OF DISCUSSION:

7.5.1 The Board noted the work of the Organics sub-committee, and in particular, its review of the recommendations of the '*Assessment of Markets for Recycled Organics in WA*' report to identify key actions.

ACTION:

7.5.2 DEC to forward a copy of the Executive Summary of the '*Assessment of Markets for Recycled Organics in WA*' report to members.

7.6 Extended Producer Responsibility Sub-committee

The Chair provided a brief status on the work of the Board's EPR sub-committee. Work is continuing on what a potential container deposit scheme could look like.

In regards to Expression on Interests sought to potentially establish a Glass Recycling Facility in WA, DEC has recently met with Jenny Pickles, General Manager of the Packaging Stewardship Forum of the Australian Food and Grocery Council to explore options further. DEC and Ms Pickles has also met with materials recovery facility operators regarding associated issues. Varying views were expressed during this exercise, demonstrating operators' minimal involvement in markets, and operations working in isolation of one another. There appeared to be minimal collaboration in addressing recycled glass issues and minimal enthusiasm for large scale operations to be developed in WA at this time.

Opportunities exist for small quantities of recycled glass to be used in road base and in sand blasting markets. Further avenues will be explored to use glass in larger quantities if there is a demand for it.

7.7 Waste Management Board 2007/08 Business Plan Projects - Summary

The Board noted the status of 2007/08 Business Plan projects.

7.8 Waste & Recycle Conference 2007 – De-brief and Outlook for 2008

The Board noted the information provided on the 2007 and 2008 Waste & Recycle Conferences. 353 delegates registered to attend the event. Feedback from delegates on the quality of the speakers at the event was very positive. Exhibitors and sponsors were very pleased with the trade exhibition and the opportunity for networking and business that the event provided.

The 2008 Conference theme has been set as 'The Heat is on: No Time to Waste.' The structure of the program for 2008 will be developed by the Conference Organising Committee over the coming months.

Members commented that it is interesting to see the number of people attending various waste conferences across various States. The trade exhibition attracted a high degree of mixing of people and the content of discussions at the conference was challenging, including sessions on economic cost benefit analysis and legal frameworks.

7.9 Export of Used Tyres to China

The Board was provided with information by DEC, highlighting that the export of tyres to China from WA is occurring.

The quantities and types of tyres currently being exported is unclear, along with the extent of impact this may be having on local markets and reprocessing activity. The Chair and DEC (through Michael Kerr) undertook to find out more information about tyre exports to China.

RESOLUTION OF DISCUSSION:

7.9.1 The Chair and DEC to investigate current export activity of tyres to China from WA.

7.10 Waste Management Board Meeting Schedule 2008

The Board noted the dates set for Waste Management Board meetings in 2008 and the proposed business planning session scheduled in March 2008. The meeting schedule will be in place until the establishment of the proposed statutory waste authority in 2008, at which time it will be reviewed.

RESOLUTION OF DISCUSSION:

7.10.1 The Board accepted the schedule of dates proposed for Waste Management Board meetings in 2008 and a business planning session scheduled for March 2008.

8. PRESENTATION

Nil

9. OTHER BUSINESS

9.1 Board SWIS sub-committee

Nominations from the Board were sought to establish a SWIS sub-committee to assess the current round of SWIS applications received. Geoff Richards and Paddi Creevey confirmed their interest in being part of the sub-committee. The sub-committee will meet on 19 October 2007 to assess applications.

RESOLUTIONS OF DISCUSSION:

9.1.1 Board members Geoff Richards and Paddi Creevey confirmed their interest in being part of the sub-committee formed to assess the current round of SWIS applications.

9.2 November Meeting of the Waste Management Board

The Chair advised that he is unable to attend the next scheduled Board meeting on 8 November due to being interstate. Members were asked to consider an alternative meeting date for November to coincide with a tour of the Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council's (EMRC's) Red Hill Waste Management Facility. An alternative meeting date of Thursday 15 November was proposed, subject to confirmation from the EMRC.

DEC will advise members as soon as possible on the November meeting date following feedback from the EMRC.

ACTION:

9.2.1 DEC to confirm the November meeting date as soon as possible following confirmation from the EMRC regarding the meeting coinciding with a tour of the Red Hill Waste Management Facility.

9.3 Waste Oil Status

Steve Beilby, the Business Coordinator, Environmental Regulation Division of DEC provided the Board with a status of the used oil situation in WA. He advised that the situation is looking more promising than it was 2-3 months ago. Oil recyclers have contributed significantly towards finding solutions. Applications have been made to the Commonwealth Government to blend treated waste oil with other materials to meet agreed fuel specifications.

While an initial shipment of 8 million litres was scheduled to leave for Singapore on 26 October 2007 under contract arrangements, this has now been delayed until mid December due to the availability of a market on Christmas Island which will now receive 4 million litres of the product in two weeks time.

Steve advised that Christmas Island is an existing waste oil market for Wren and Nationwide and this is attractive to the recyclers as it does not require the blending of recycled used oil with fuel oils, therefore significantly reducing overall costs. In comparison, the Singapore market requires local recyclers to purchase heavy fuel oils to include in the 'blend' which affects the commercial viability of this market. A 15c per litre service collection fee has recently been introduced to offset these costs.

The Board acknowledged that significant progress has been made in the short term, which is expected to see 12 million litres being sent offshore prior to the end of the year. However, the feasibility of sustaining this in the longer term is uncertain. The recent cooperation between Wren and Nationwide in a joint venture, which allows for discussion and identifying strategies, was noted by the Board. Strong indications from the venture show long term plans to construct a 'lube to lube' refining facility in WA producing base lubricant oil that can be used to produce 'new' engine oil.

An Eastern States based company has also shown an interest in acquiring significant volumes of WA's used oil over the next three years. It may have the capacity to accept 60 million litres over two to three years.

The Board conveyed its views that Western Australia has tried as hard as it could with the Commonwealth and the Commonwealth has done all it can to promote industry to manage its own waste. However, the Board's clear expectation is that there will be a reasonable collection system in place by mid 2008, and which does not lead to oil spillages. The calling of tenders to manage waste oil in WA on behalf of the State Government was also considered a long term solution if waste oil is not handled appropriately within an agreed timeframe.

RESOLUTIONS OF DISCUSSION:

- 9.3.1 The Board expressed a clear expectation that there will be a reasonable collection system for waste oil in place within WA by mid 2008.**
- 9.3.2 The Board acknowledged that the State Government should take oversight of waste oil management within WA if the matter is not appropriately managed within an agreed timeframe.**

9.4 Federal Bill on Carbon Emissions

Fleur Newman provided members with details of the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Act 2007 which was enacted on 7 September 2007. Reporting requirements will come into effect on 1 July 2008 for companies emitting more than 25 megatonnes of emissions per year. The first report is expected by September 2009. It is a reporting framework only, with States still responsible for setting conditions on greenhouse gas emissions. A clause regarding the Commonwealth requiring States to set conditions has been modified within the Bill.

ACTION:

- 9.4.1 Fleur Newman to provide members with a copy of the explanatory notes of the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Act 2007.**

10. NEXT MEETING

To be determined. Item 9.2 refers.

11. CLOSE

The meeting closed at 12.15 pm.

APPROVED / APPROVED WITH AMENDMENT

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Barry Carbon', written in a cursive style.

Barry Carbon, Chair

WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD

13 November 2007