



ASSESSMENT OF WASTE DISPOSAL AND MATERIAL RECOVERY INFRASTRUCTURE FOR PERTH

Progress Report to the Waste Authority



Introduction / Purpose of Project

Cardno WA Pty Ltd (Cardno) has been contracted by the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) to conduct an “*Assessment of Waste Disposal and Material Recovery Infrastructure for Perth*”. The main aim of the study is to assess the current infrastructure for waste and recycling in the Perth Metropolitan Area and anticipate the best way to respond to future demands. There are a number of aspects associated with the completion of such a study including:

- Obtaining current waste generation and treatment¹ infrastructure data (baseline data);
- Predicting future waste generation and recycling quantities; and
- Identifying future infrastructure requirements and sustainable waste management practices.

Methodology

Specific tasks were proposed by Cardno to fulfil the project objectives, as follows:

- Review of background studies;
- Compile a list of infrastructure;
- Analyse Phase 1 Zero Waste Plan Development Scheme (ZWPDS) data for the Perth Metropolitan Area;
- Waste generation projections;
- Waste infrastructure data collection (site visits and phone interviews);
- Strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats (SWOT) analysis;
- Draft report; and
- Final report

Amended Project Timeframe

Under Cardno’s original proposal it was envisaged that a draft report would be submitted to the DEC prior to the 2nd September 2008, however, resourcing of appropriate staff at Cardno became problematic early in the project. Through consultation with the DEC an amended timetable was agreed upon, as follows:

- Progress report to be submitted to the DEC on the 19th September 2008 (this report);
- Data summary report to be presented to the Waste Authority, including collation of all relevant data, prior to the 3rd October 2008; and
- Final report to be submitted to the DEC prior to the 11th November 2008.

Current Progress

Cardno is currently progressing well with the amended timeframe. The review of background studies, compilation of current / proposed infrastructure, Phase 1 analysis, waste generation projections and infrastructure data collection are complete. Infrastructure data collection involved approximately 20 phone interviews and 15 site visits. Infrastructure targeted included Class I, II, III and IV landfills, Materials Recovery Facilities, Resource Recovery Facilities, Transfer Stations, Greenwaste Processing Facilities and major commercial recyclers.

There have been some delays in the collection of data due to some waste contractors being unable to provide data or being unavailable.

¹ For this project treatment relates to the processing, recycling, composting, recovery and disposal of waste and/or recyclable materials.

Going Forward

Cardno is now progressing into the SWOT analysis phase of the project. It was originally envisaged that Cardno would conduct the SWOT analysis internally using collected data from industry and the DEC. However, discussions internally at Cardno concluded that an industry workshop facilitated by Cardno would be more beneficial to the SWOT process and increase the integrity of any conclusions that arise from the report.

Discussions with the DEC have resulted in support for this SWOT workshop. The venue, agenda, format, invitees and date for the industry workshop will be developed in consultation with the DEC. However, it is likely the event would be held in mid October 2008, with the following stakeholders being present:

- Forum of Regional Councils (FORC);
- DEC;
- MWAC (Municipal Waste Advisory Council);
- Industry; and the
- Waste Authority

The proposed workshop will be project based and would not replace the need for a future forum to discuss the final outcomes of the report and any implications the report presents. Whilst the proposed workshop deviates somewhat from the scope that was originally outlined by Cardno, it is unlikely to affect the proposed timeframe for completion or the specified budget.

Conclusion

As discussed Cardno is progressing well and will continue to update the DEC on the expected timeframe for delivery. In the short term Cardno will both continue to develop the data summary report and organise the industry workshop. The DEC has also indicated they are willing to assist Cardno in the organisation of this event.

