

EPA Guidelines

Waste levy regulations

Updated June 2008¹

EPA 351/08: This guideline updates and replaces the former EPA Guideline 'Waste Levy Regulations'. It offers advice to assist compliance with the Environment Protection (Fees and Levy) Regulations 1994.

The levy

A levy is payable by the licence-holder of a waste depot for all waste received that is to be disposed of at that depot. There is no levy on waste fill material² (formerly called 'clean fill').

The levy is used in part to fund programs such as waste minimisation, resource recovery and KESAB litter strategies. It is also used to support the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) in administering the *Environment Protection Act 1993*, including licensing, waste tracking and compliance.

The levies for the financial year 2008 – 2009 are:

Solid waste (per tonne)

For a non-metropolitan depot disposing of non-metropolitan waste (non-metro rate)	\$12.10
For a metropolitan depot disposing of non-metropolitan waste brought to the depot <i>by or on behalf of a wholly non-metropolitan council</i> (non-metro rate)	\$12.10
Any other case (metro rate)	\$24.20

Liquid waste (per kilolitre)

All cases	\$10.10
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Note: these levies will be subject to increases each financial year, based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI).

¹ Last updated July 2007.

² Waste fill is defined in the Environment Protection (Fees and Levy) Regulations as:

... waste consisting of clay, concrete, rock, sand, soil or other inert mineralogical matter in pieces not exceeding 100 millimetres in length and containing chemical substances in concentrations (calculated in a manner determined by the Authority) less than the concentrations for those substances set out in Schedule 6 [see Appendix], but does not include waste consisting of or containing asbestos or bitumen.

Measuring waste

Solid waste-depots receiving 10,000 tonnes or more of solid waste for disposal in a financial year

Weighbridge requirements

Any depot in this category must have an on-site weighbridge. All waste, including waste fill material, that is delivered in vehicles other than those described in Schedule 4 of the *Environment Protection (Fees and Levy) Regulations* (the Regulations) as Class 1–3 must be weighed.

For waste received after 1 October 2000, the weighbridge must have been installed within four months of the end of the financial year in which that waste is received.

Depots can apply for an exemption from installing a weighbridge if they are to cease operating within 12 months of the financial year in which 10,000 tonnes or more of waste was disposed of.

There are no other provisions for depots receiving 10,000 tonnes or more of solid waste for disposal in a financial year to apply for an exemption.

Depots can choose to measure waste delivered in Class 1–3 vehicles, described in Schedule 4, by using either:

- an approved weighbridge
- OR
- the average net mass of weight set out in Schedule 4 (Table 1).

Table 1 Average net mass of weight

Class	1	2	3
Description	Cars and stationwagons	Car-type utilities, panel vans and single-axle box trailer	Large utilities, large vans, and multiple-axle trailers
Average net mass of solid waste (tonnes)	0.2	0.7	1.3

Volumetric survey

All depots in this category must provide a volumetric survey to the EPA within three months of the end of that financial year.

A volumetric survey is a series of site measurements used to determine the volume of waste disposed of at the depot. Such surveys can be carried out using either photogrammetric or traditional ground-based techniques. The first survey provides a base plan of the depot, with subsequent surveys showing the amount of waste deposited.

The volumetric survey must be prepared by an authorised person who is either a licensed or registered surveyor under the *Survey Act 1992* or a full member of at least **one** of the following bodies:

- Institution of Surveyors, Australia Inc
- Association of Consulting Surveyors, SA
- Institution of Engineering and Mining Surveyors Australia Inc.

Solid waste—depots receiving less than 10,000 tonnes of solid waste for disposal in a financial year

Weighbridge requirements

All depots (except non-metropolitan councils using the population-based formula) in this category must use an approved weighbridge, either on site or off site, to weigh waste. All waste including waste fill material, that is delivered by vehicles other than those described in Schedule 4 as Class 1–3, must be weighed by weighbridge.

Depots can choose to measure waste delivered in Class 1–3 vehicles by using either:

- an approved weighbridge

OR

- the average net mass of weight set out in Schedule 4 (Table 1).

A waste depot licensee can apply for an exemption from using a weighbridge if adequate alternative methods of measuring waste are used.

Non-metropolitan council depots

A non-metropolitan council can use a population-based formula to calculate monthly waste if:

- it disposes of less than 10,000 tonnes of solid waste per depot in a financial year

AND

- all waste received for disposal is from non-metropolitan areas.

Population data is obtainable from the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

Non-metropolitan councils disposing of 10,000 tonnes or more of solid waste at a depot or disposing of waste from metropolitan areas cannot use the population-based formula. These councils must abide by the relevant section mentioned earlier.

Liquid waste—all depots

Methods used for measuring liquid waste include:

- a volume-measuring device installed at the depot and approved by the EPA
- an approved weighbridge
- a certified cartnote signed by the producer and the transporter (Waste Transport Certificate or Waste Tracking Form).

Other methods are described in 15(6) of the Regulations.

Reporting

All depots (except those using the population-based formula) must send a return to the EPA as soon as practicable after the last day of each month, giving the mass or volume of waste received at a depot. This is calculated by:

- (a) in the case of waste weighed on a weighbridge installed prior to 8 August 2002—to the highest level of weighing accuracy for the particular design of weighbridge
- (b) in any other case—to the nearest 0.02 tonnes or kilolitres.

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1 Solid waste—metropolitan depot:

- the total mass (in tonnes) of waste (excluding waste fill material) received during each day of the month and a monthly total
- the total mass (in tonnes) of waste fill material received during each day of the month and a monthly total
- if using Schedule 4, the daily and monthly totals of vehicles in each class (1–3).

2 Solid waste—non-metropolitan depot:

- all of the above

AND

- the monthly total for the mass (in tonnes) of waste received from non-metropolitan premises.

3 Liquid waste—all depots:

- the total volume (in kilolitres) during each day of the month and a monthly total.

Frequently asked questions

What is considered ‘metropolitan’?

- Metropolitan has the same meaning as described in the *Development Act 1993*

What levy is charged for metropolitan waste disposed at a non-metropolitan depot?

- The metro rate will apply

What levy is charged for non-metropolitan waste disposed at a metropolitan depot?

- Non-metropolitan waste transported *by or on behalf* of a council into metropolitan waste depots can have the non-metro rate apply (upon application). In all other cases the metro rate will apply

Is the levy paid at transfer stations or recycling depots?

- No, the levy is only applicable when the waste is disposed of

Where is my nearest public weighbridge?

- Locations of public weighbridges can be obtained from the Office of Consumer and Business Affairs at (08) 8234 2036, 131 882 (SA country callers) or the internet at: www.ocba.sa.gov.au/trademeasurement

Can I still use the Schedule 4 averages?

- The updated Schedule 4 averages can be used for estimating waste delivered in Class 1–3 vehicles only. Schedule 4 averages for Classes 4–13 have been abolished

Can a non-metropolitan council depot still estimate waste by using the population-based formula?

- Yes; however, the non-metropolitan council must receive less than 10,000 tonnes of solid waste for disposal per depot in a financial year and only dispose of waste from non-metropolitan areas

When do I have to provide a volumetric survey?

- Within three months of the end of any financial year in which 10,000 tonnes or more of solid waste was received

Where can I obtain further information about the waste levy?

- For information regarding monthly returns or revenue matters, please call (08) 8204 2090
- For all other matters relating to the waste levy, please call (08) 8204 2147 or (08) 8204 1757

Currency of these guidelines

These guidelines offer advice to assist with compliance with the general environmental duty and specific environmental policies. They are subject to amendment and persons relying on the information should check with the EPA to ensure that it is current at any given time.

FURTHER INFORMATION*Legislation*

Legislation may be viewed on the internet at: <www.legislation.sa.gov.au>

Copies of legislation are available for purchase from:

Service SA Government Legislation Outlet 101 Grenfell Street Adelaide SA 5000	Telephone: Fax: Internet: Email:	13 23 24 (08) 8204 1909 < shop.service.sa.gov.au > < servicesa@saugov.sa.gov.au >
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For general information please contact:

Environment Protection Authority GPO Box 2607 Adelaide SA 5001	Telephone: Facsimile: Freecall (country): Internet: Email:	(08) 8204 2004 (08) 8124 4670 1800 623 445 < www.epa.sa.gov.au > < epainfo@epa.sa.gov.au >
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Appendix Schedule 6, Environment Protection (Fees and Levy) Regulations

Concentrations of chemical substances in waste

Chemical substance	Concentrations (milligrams per kilogram of waste)
Aldrin/dieldrin	2
Arsenic	20
Barium	300
Benzene	1
Benzo(a)pyrene	1
Beryllium	20
Cadmium	3
Cobalt	170
Chlordane	2
Chromium (III)	400
Chromium (VI)	1
Copper	60
Cyanides (total)	500
DDT	2
Ethylbenzene	3.1
Heptachlor	2
Lead	300
Manganese	500
Mercury	1
Nickel	60
Petroleum hydrocarbons TPH C6-C9 (total)	65
Petroleum hydrocarbons TPH >C9	1000
Phenolic compounds (total)	0.5
Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs)	2
Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH) (total)	5
Toluene	1.4
Xylene (total)	14
Zinc	200