

## Media Release

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### EPA targets transporters who fail to cover loads

The Environment Protection Authority (EPA) has begun a targeted operation as part of its enforcement of truck drivers who fail to properly cover waste being transported.

In its first day of action, *Operation Cover-Up* observed at least 25 trucks travelling on Port Wakefield Road, all of which were found to be compliant.

EPA Acting Manager Investigations and Waste, Tania Kiley said it is promising that these transporters are adhering to the law.

“This is a positive sign that truck drivers and waste companies are getting the message. Failing to properly cover waste while transporting material to waste management facilities poses a health and safety risk to the community,” she said.

“The type of waste found in waste vehicles includes demolition material amongst other waste items.

“This can create a hazard for other road uses, the community, and can also lead to waste ending up in our stormwater and local waterways.

“The EPA will be continuing *Operation Cover-Up* in coming weeks and those that do not comply with their obligations under the Environment Protection Act will be issued an expiation notice,” she said.

The maximum penalty for this offence is \$30,000 or an expiation fee of \$160.

The EPA has conducted *Operation Cover-Up* for the past 6 years as part of its enforcement activities and response to community concern.

“We began our operation on Port Wakefield Road this year in response to numerous community complaints about litter on public roadways,” she said.

“Other areas across metropolitan Adelaide will also be targeted to ensure compliance with general waste transport provisions of the Environment Protection (Waste to Resources) Policy 2010,” she said.

The EPA encourages anyone who sees transporters who fail to cover their loads while travelling along South Australian roads, to phone the EPA Hotline on 08 8204 2004.

