

Environment Protection Authority

Waste to Resources EPP

e-bulletin: 3 August, 2010



Welcome to the first W2R EPP e-bulletin. This newsletter will provide regular updates on the implementation of the Waste to Resources Environment Protection Policy (W2R EPP) including information on key dates, interpreting the legislation and answering questions. Please feel free to pass it on to anyone else you know may be interested in progress on this important waste reform initiative.

The W2R EPP is here

The parliamentary disallowance period ended on 22 July 2010, so the W2R EPP will come into effect on 1 September 2010. Over the coming months the EPA will be working closely with Zero Waste SA and liaising with the Local Government Association, the Waste Management Association of Australia (SA Branch) and other key stakeholders to develop broad community and industry awareness of requirements under the EPP. Copies of the EPP can be downloaded [here](#).

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Landfill bans

The W2R EPP encourages the diversion of waste from landfill through the introduction of landfill bans. The bans prohibit certain waste types from being disposed of in landfill and will be introduced in a staged manner. This provides time for the development of alternative markets and infrastructure to support the bans.

The first landfill bans become operational on 1 September 2010 and cover:

- High-risk materials which are largely already banned from disposal through EPA licences:
 - hazardous waste
 - lead acid batteries
 - liquid waste
 - medical waste
 - oil
 - whole tyres
- Aggregated recoverable materials, where a system exists to segregate materials or someone has gone to the effort of keeping the materials separate ready for recovery:
 - aggregated cardboard and paper
 - aggregated glass packaging
 - aggregated metals e.g. aluminium, copper, steel, iron
 - aggregated PET or HDPE plastic packaging
 - vegetative matter collected by councils

Further landfill bans will come into affect over the next three years. The full list of bans and timeframes are available on the EPA website ([here](#)). Zero Waste SA is working closely with the EPA to ensure that information for householders about the banned wastes is up to date.

Treatment of waste prior to disposal

The requirement for waste to be treated, by being subjected to appropriate resource recovery, prior to disposal at a landfill does not apply until 1 September 2012. Between now and then the EPA will develop a guideline in consultation with industry that covers what will constitute 'appropriate resource recovery'. In developing this, the EPA will consider waste types and technology available. The guideline will also provide guidance to landfill operators on how they can be confident of the suitability of the waste they receive.

Frequently Asked Questions

A series of W2R EPP frequently asked questions is now available on the EPA website ([here](#)). These will be updated from time to time in response to queries received by the EPA, to cover areas of most interest.

Contact us

For more information or to be added or to be removed from the mailing list, contact Anne Ellson at anne.ellson@epa.sa.gov.au