



Waste Authority

Towards  
**ZERO WASTE**  
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# WASTE AUTHORITY

# ANNUAL REPORT

## 2010/2011



Hon Bill Marmion, MLA  
Minister for Environment

In accordance with section 63 of the *Financial Administration Act 2006*, we submit the Waste Authority Annual Report for the period 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011, for presentation to Parliament.

The report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the *Financial Management Act 2006*.



Peter Fitzpatrick AM, JP  
Chairman

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The report conforms with State Government requirements for accessibility and ease in downloading and can be viewed in HTML and PDF formats. The latter can be downloaded from our website, [www.zerowastewa.com.au](http://www.zerowastewa.com.au).

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Waste Authority Annual Report 2010/2011

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## **Chairman's Report**

In reviewing the past 12 months operation of the Waste Authority, I see the themes of consolidation and change. The change is reflected by the fact that for half the year we operated with an Acting Chair, and my thanks to Jan Grimoldby for filling that important role.

For the remaining six months Jim Malcolm was Chairman and programs announced during his term provide a solid basis for the work of the Authority. My thanks to Jim for his energy and commitment.

Also during this period a new Minister for Environment was appointed, the Hon Bill Marmion, MLA taking up the portfolio mid way through the financial year.

The consolidation of important programs has continued and I would like to thank the previous members for their work. All four members appointments concluded in early May. Marcus Geisler was re-appointed as the new Deputy Chairman.

I also extend a warm welcome to the three new members joining the Authority - Jennifer Bloom, Neil Foley and Michele Rosano. It was particularly pleasing to see experiences and skills being brought to the table from a regional perspective.

The Authority has identified the provision of services to remote areas of our state as a priority and our initiatives in this area support the national waste policy. A number of meetings with people in the Kimberly region by the Authority has enhanced our knowledge of a range of waste management challenges and opportunities.

One of the major areas of improvement in the operation of the Authority has been the management of the relationships we have with our key stakeholders, particularly strategic partners.

Governance aspects of the Authority itself have been improved significantly over the last six months with new policies and guidance documents developed, assisting the operating environment.

Major programs have been approved in the management of e-waste and household hazardous wastes (HHW) in the last twelve months. In March 2011 the Minister approved expenditure of approximately \$10 million over the life of a new four year HHW program, which will focus on permanent collection facilities.

Western Australia can be proud of its initiative to fund the Western Australian Transitional E-Waste Program (WATEP), which will run for up to three years until the introduction of the national e-waste product stewardship scheme. Funding of up to \$1.5 million over three years has earned Western Australia significant praise from the federal government for this positive development.

These two programs have real and significant benefits to the management of waste in this state.

In May 2011 the Regional Funding Program was approved, delivering approximately \$6.7 million over five years to local government for waste reduction initiatives.

Celebrating the many good works of individuals, as well as industry, community, government and education sectors is important. The launch of the inaugural Waste Authority Waste Awards, at the Waste and Recycle Conference in September 2010, provided a welcome showcase to champion the positive efforts made by many in working to advance the objectives of the Authority.

This award scheme is now an annual event and encourages innovation, participation and best practice.

At the national level we continue to respond to the call for submissions on a range of policy matters, ensuring that WA's unique set of circumstances are not overlooked.

The Authority welcomes and appreciates the ongoing opportunity to engage with stakeholders on every level from community organisations, other State and Federal Government agencies, local government and business operators.

In conclusion, I believe that the future holds great promise, with significant and exciting initiatives that can deliver major diversion of waste from landfill, for the benefit of all Western Australians.

Peter Fitzpatrick AM, JP  
Chairman



## **Waste Authority Profile**

### **Enabling Legislation**

Assent was given to the *Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007* (WARR Act) on 21 December 2007. The Act establishes the Waste Authority and provides for waste avoidance and resource recovery and waste services by local government and it makes provision for levies on waste.

The *Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Levy Act 2007* (WARR Levy Act) was also assented to on 21 December 2007. It is an Act to impose a levy in respect of certain waste.

The Minister has discretionary powers in the allocation of funds.

### **Responsible Minister**

The Waste Authority reported for half the reporting period to the Hon Donna Faragher JP MLC, Minister for Environment, from July to December 2010. From January 2011 the Hon Bill Marmion MLA, became the new Minister to exercise authority under the WARR Act.

### **What is the Waste Authority?**

The Waste Authority is a statutory body comprising five members appointed by the Governor, on the recommendation of the Minister for Environment.

The Waste Authority was established on 6 May 2008 with the appointment of its five members. The Authority, replaced the Waste Management Board, and commenced full operation on 1 July 2008.

The main areas of responsibility for the Authority include:

- Managing the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Account
- Advising the Minister on matters relating to waste in Western Australia
- Developing and implementing the state waste strategy
- Promoting resource efficiency.

The Waste Authority is funded through the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Account. The Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) provides administrative and contract management support to the Authority.

The DEC also coordinates project specific activities on behalf of the Authority as required.

In May 2011, the term of the four previous members concluded and the conclusion of the short term appointment of the Chairman in June 2011, meant a new membership was announced commencing in June.

### **Previous Members**

The Authority has been well served by its previous members, some of whom have been associated with the Waste Authority and the previous Waste Management Board.

As the new membership begins its term at the commencement of a new financial year, it is an appropriate time to proceed with the business of moving waste management to best practice in WA.

### **New Members**

**Jennifer Bloom** - a change management and strategic planning specialist with expertise in process re-engineering she has a proven track record in leading large projects. Ms Bloom is an elected representative in regional government.



**Neil Foley** – with qualifications in regional and urban planning, Mr Foley has worked in a range of senior government roles and is a private consultant as well as Professor of Urban and Regional Planning at UWA.



**Marcus Geisler** – a reappointed Authority member, Marcus continues to bring his years of experience in the waste industry at both an operational and management level, including three years in the Melbourne Corporate Office of a waste management multinational, developing national and state strategies. Mr Geisler has been appointed as Deputy Chairman



**Michele Rosano** – experienced in sales and marketing for the resources and industrial products areas, Ms Rosano is also an economist in natural resource management. After working in Europe and Asia, she now heads up the Sustainable Engineering Group at Curtin University and is interested in corporate sustainability.





## Our Role

The functions of the Waste Authority, as detailed in Schedule 2 of the WARR Act, include, but are not limited to:

- Providing advice and making recommendations to the Minister on matters relating to the WARR Act
- Developing, promoting and reviewing a waste strategy for Western Australia and coordinating its implementation.
- Monitoring and assessing the adequacy of, and reporting to the Minister on the operation of, the waste strategy, product stewardship plans and extended producer responsibility schemes
- Promoting resource efficiency, waste avoidance and resource recovery
- Providing advice and making recommendations to the CEO of DEC on the regulation of waste services.

The operations of the Waste Authority are funded through a portion of the proceeds from the landfill levy collected via the WARR Levy Act and are apportioned to the Authority as specified by the Minister for Environment. The Authority is responsible for applying these funds to fulfil its required functions on the approval of the Minister.

The Waste Authority acts on the principle that we should as a society be moving "towards zero waste". This concept extends to every aspect of our lives and has the potential to fundamentally affect the complete product and action "cycles" of our daily routines, choices and consumption behaviour.

Each state government has its own unique set of circumstances and challenges to face.

In Western Australia, the size of our state and its mix of mining and agriculture, together with the small number of regional centres outside Perth, combine to form our particular waste footprint.

Some solutions to waste management challenges can best be achieved through a national approach; others require a focus solely on Western Australia. In both cases, the Authority has the responsibility for providing independent advice to the State Government on the best ways to reduce waste and increase recycling. It also has a role in facilitating research, encouraging business and the community to trial solutions as well as supporting existing programs with a track record of success.

The Authority consults with all levels of government, business, the community and individuals to better inform itself about waste issues.

## Financial Operation

Following amendments to the WARR Act, the WARR Account is to be allocated funds of not less than 25% of the forecast landfill levy amount for the financial year.

The forecast landfill levy amount in 2010/11 was \$44 million, of which \$11 million was approved by the Minister to be allocated to the WARR Account. As in previous years, the levy was paid to the operating account of DEC in accordance to the *Financial Management Act 2006* section 16(1) (a). The prescribed amount of \$11 million was allocated to the WARR Account accordingly.

In addition to the landfill levy, the WARR Account received a calculated interest on the Account balance and late penalties on quarterly payments. The Account had an opening balance of \$14.3 million.

WARR Account expenditure is consistent with the approved work plan and/or any programs approved by the Minister. The WARR Account revenue and expenditure is summarised in the Statement of Cash Flows in Appendix 1.

### Financial Snapshot as at 30 June 2011

The WARR Account was credited with \$11 million from the landfill levy received and \$1.2 million of account interest and other miscellaneous revenue. The 2010/11 WARR Account expenditure was \$11 million.

Taking into account the \$14.3 million opening balance, the WARR Account was left with a balance of \$15.5 million on 30 June 2011.

Total WARR Account revenue, expenditure and opening/closing balances are disclosed in the DEC's Annual Report under the Special Purpose accounts of the Financial Statements.

The Auditor General provided an independent audit opinion on DEC'S financial statements and key performance indicators that included the WARR Account.

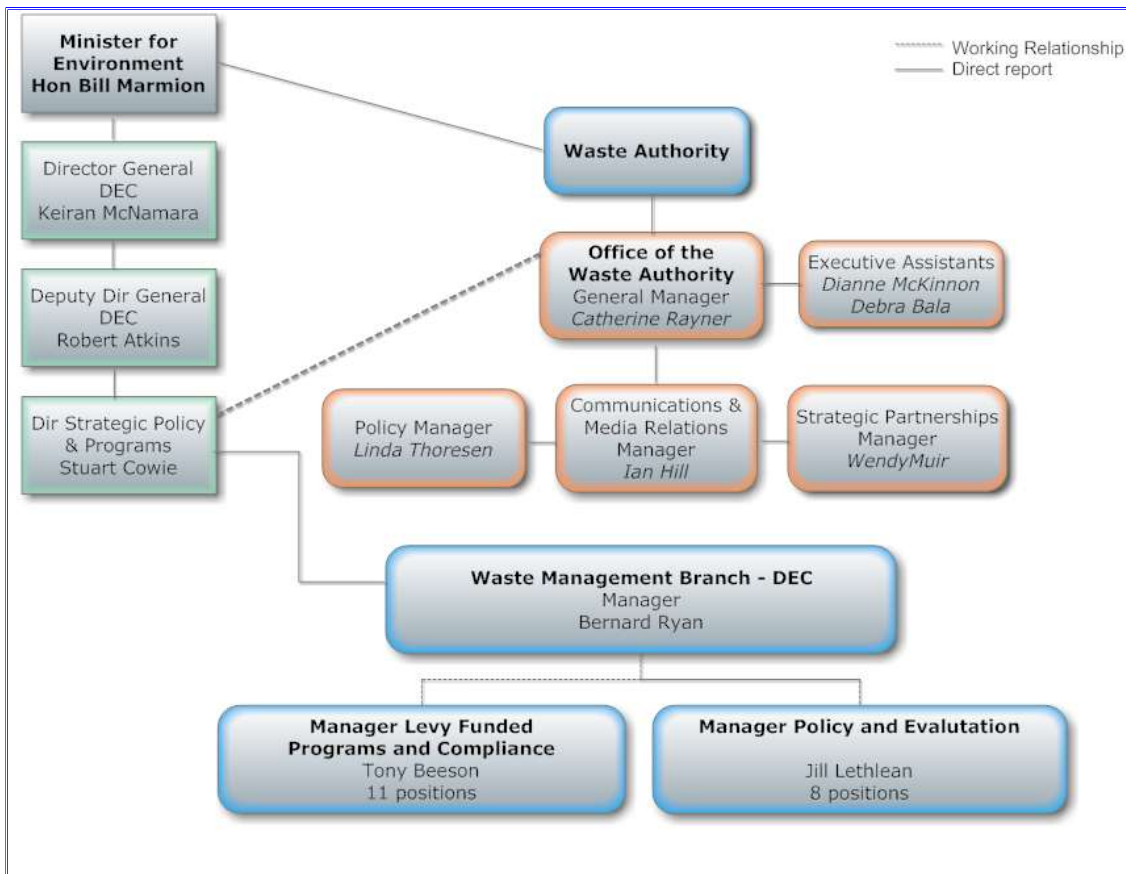
## Our Staff

The Office of the Waste Authority (OWA) was established to provide representation for the Authority on a full time basis and comprises the General Manager, Catherine Rayner; Executive Officers (1.2 job share), Di McKinnon and Debra Bala; Manager Strategic Partnerships, Wendy Muir; Manager Policy, Linda Thoresen and Manager Communications & Media Relations, Ian Hill.

This financial year saw the appointment of Wendy Muir as Manager Strategic Partnerships. Wendy joined us with a strong chemistry, program management and Government background.

### Organisation Chart

As shown below, the Authority and its administrative support staff (OWA) sit alongside the DEC structure and interact at the executive level.



Through a formal agreement with the DEC Waste Management Branch (WMB), the work of the Authority is actioned.





## Shared Responsibilities with Other Agencies

A Memorandum of Understanding and Service Level Agreement exists between the Authority and DEC and includes the provision of corporate services by the Department as well as waste expertise and program management by the Waste Management Branch (WMB).

OWA staff fulfil specialist roles that draw on the expertise of the WMB staff, as well as obtain additional advice from external sources. This collaborative structure ensures that there is a natural link between policy advice and the delivery mechanisms for strategic partnerships and programs, the bulk of which are carried out by the WMB staff.

### Landfills in Aboriginal Communities Working Group

The Working Group established by the Waste Authority in July 2010 comprises the OWA, DEC and departments of Housing, Health, Indigenous Affairs, and Planning as well as the Commonwealth Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA) which is administering the National Partnership for Remote Indigenous Housing program.

The first five-year stage will see the construction of 295 houses and refurbishment of up to 1,000 homes in remote communities throughout the State, predominantly in the Kimberley. The Authority has taken an interest because of the extensive amount of C&D waste generated by the program.

The Chairman of the Waste Authority, together with DEC Deputy Director General Environment, Robert Atkins, and Director Strategic Policy & Programs, Stuart Cowie, visited local governments and Aboriginal communities in the Kimberley in early May 2011 to get a first-hand view of landfills in the region and have discussions about possible solutions.

### National Waste Policy: Regional and Remote Australia Working Group

The National Waste Policy aims to avoid the generation of waste, reduce the amount of waste, including hazardous waste, for disposal, manage waste as a resource and ensure that waste treatment, disposal, recovery and reuse is undertaken in an environmentally sound manner.

The Policy establishes six key directions and 16 strategies for the period to 2020 to be implemented by national working groups, including 'Tailoring solutions—increased capacity in regional, remote and Indigenous communities to manage waste and recover and reuse resources'.

The *Regional and Remote Australia Working Group* is chaired by the DEC Director of Strategic Policy and Programs, Stuart Cowie, and includes representation

from the Waste Authority through the Office of the Waste Authority.

The Working Group's first project is the publication of project case studies so that lessons learned and successful implementation of good ideas can be shared throughout Australia's regional and remote areas. Each state and territory, in partnership with the Australian Local Government Association, is working with stakeholders to source project information for the publication.

### Department of Local Government Planning for Municipal Service Delivery

The Department of Local Government (DLG) provided a number of briefings to the Authority and DEC regarding the work of the Local Government Services in Indigenous Communities Planning Committee, working for innovative solutions for municipal service delivery to remote communities.

The Committee comprises the Directors General of the departments of Local Government, Housing and Indigenous Affairs; the State Manager, Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA); a representative from the Office of the Minister for Local government; the CEO Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA) and representatives from key regional local governments.

The Committee is responsible for guiding the planning, scoping and costing of a range of local government services, including waste management, to Indigenous communities across Western Australia. The synergies between the Planning Committee's work and that of the EPHC *Regional and Remote Australia Working Group* were recognised.

## Stakeholders

A variety of organisations and groups share responsibility for the management of waste either through regulation, policy and advice or the direct management of waste. In undertaking its responsibilities, the Waste Authority liaises with many organisations to enhance progress towards zero waste.

Waste management responsibilities are undertaken by a number of entities:

- Local government and Regional Councils have a primary role in managing municipal waste and developing and operating waste infrastructure
- The waste and resource recovery industry provides privately funded collection, sorting, reprocessing and disposal services
- Waste generators, including households and businesses, through their use of recycling and disposal systems
- A number of not-for-profit, industry and government groups provide community and commercial perspectives that contribute to Waste Authority planning and decisions. These include the Municipal Waste Advisory Council, Waste Management Association of Australia, Forum of Regional Councils, Conservation Council of Western Australia and Compost WA.

Some of these relationships are formalised through strategic partnership arrangements that benefit from funding from the Waste Authority for the provision of consolidated information and stakeholder consultation.

The Authority also provides policy advice to the Minister for Environment on national issues being addressed through the Environment Protection and Heritage Council.



## **Performance Management Framework**

### **Contribution to Government Goals**

The work of the Waste Authority aligns with the State Government's goals of financial and economic responsibility, encouraging economic activity and efficient service delivery. It focuses on outcomes-based service delivery to achieve results which reflect both social and environmental responsibility, while ensuring that economic activity is managed in a socially and environmentally responsible manner.

Technical improvements in processes and capabilities, require improved waste management systems and community partnerships to increase awareness and change behaviours.

### **Towards Zero Waste and the Waste Hierarchy**

In the implementation of its functions, the Waste Authority has been guided by the waste hierarchy which provides a pathway from a waste generating society to one that values resources and uses them in sustainable ways.

The consultative process used to develop a draft waste strategy guides the Authority's response to a number of themes including:

- Education as a key tool for changing behaviours regarding waste avoidance, recovery and disposal and for raising public awareness of contemporary waste treatment options
- Developing a network of infrastructure for waste treatment and the industry's ability to manage long-term planning together with the State Government
- Support for resource recovery
- The unique challenges Western Australia faces in addressing waste management in remote communities
- The need for clarity regarding landfill standards and regulation
- The need for data collection and analysis was an important element to underpin effective waste management and resource recovery in Western Australia
- The landfill levy and how it is used.

### **Achievements and Activities**

#### **Overarching**

##### Monitoring

The Waste Authority commissioned a survey of recyclers and reprocessors in Western Australia. The survey obtained information on recycling activity in Western Australia for 2007/08 and 2008/09. The report and a

summary of the report are available on the Authority website. The survey will be conducted each year for the next two years.

##### Grant Schemes

The Strategic Waste Initiatives Scheme (SWIS) and Community Grants Scheme (CGS) fund projects to assist the State achieve better environmental outcomes.

In the first round of funding for 2010/2011, four SWIS projects valued at approx \$180,500 were awarded and \$74,100 was approved for six CGS projects.

The Waste Authority determined not to advertise a second round of SWIS funding in 2010/2011, however a round of CGS was advertised in April 2011.

##### Strategic Partnership Details

During 2010/2011, the Waste Authority provided funding support for Strategic Partnerships. The purpose is to provide partner organisations with the capacity to represent the views of their members and constituents to the Waste Authority on relevant waste issues and to provide feedback.

These formal alliances between the Authority and key stakeholders enable consolidated engagement and/or the building of mutual long-term goals and commitments to waste avoidance and resource recovery.

During the year considerable effort has gone into governance arrangements surrounding the strategic partnerships in terms of contractual partnership agreements, government policies, best practice guides and compliance with relevant legislation. In particular, an evaluation was conducted against good governance principles on previous and current strategic partnerships, in consultation with DEC internal audit management.

The top priority recommendation from this evaluation was to strengthen the contractual partnership agreement to ensure compliance with good governance principles for all strategic partnerships. All current partnerships are being restructured and all future partnerships will be established on the developed partnership agreement.

The Waste Authority Strategic Partnerships Policy was created in March 2011 to strengthen the criteria upon which partnerships are established and funded.

The Authority currently has seven strategic partnerships in place with a variety of stakeholders representing industry, Local Government and community groups, who are best placed to assist with advancing the WARR Act and the Authority's strategic priorities.

In the community sector, the Authority has partnerships with Waste Wise Schools, Keep Australia Beautiful Council (Western Australia) and the Conservation Council of Western Australia.

**Waste Wise Schools**

The partnership with Waste Wise Schools supports the program throughout Western Australia and is aimed at changing attitudes and behaviour in regard to sustainable waste management in students and the whole school community. The program models responsible environmental behaviours through hands-on learning experiences that are linked to the Western Australia Curriculum Framework.

The Waste Wise Schools program offers resources and support for schools to plan, implement and maintain waste minimising projects such as recycling, composting and worm farming.

This year, an additional 30 metropolitan schools and 18 regional schools joined the program, making a total of 665 Waste Wise Schools in Western Australia, compared to 617 last year. There were 44 grants made, reaching 17,097 students. Ninety six per cent of the funded projects were to recycle organic waste within the context of a Waste Wise garden.

This year 7 schools (3 regional, 4 metropolitan) qualified for the top \$10,000 Waste and Sustainability grant by satisfying strict criteria such as reducing waste to landfill by 60 per cent, forming community links and partnerships, and educating their community about waste issues.

On 24 June 2011 the Hon Bill Marmion, Minister for Environment, launched the Waste Wise School's new Healthy Zero Waste Lunch and the Waste Audit Teacher Resources toolkits at Hollywood Primary School and presented prizes for the Zero Waste Lunch poster competition. The then Authority Chairman, Mr Jim Malcolm congratulated Hollywood Primary School on their successes and their innovative approaches to waste management especially the committee involving Year 7 students.



The Minister congratulates Hollywood Primary students as they receive awards for a competition through the Waste

**Keep Australia Beautiful Council**

The aim of the strategic partnership with Keep Australia Beautiful Council of Western Australia (KABC WA) is to provide KABC WA with the increased capacity to implement a number of aspects of the Litter Prevention Strategy for Western Australia 2009–2014 such as audit and evaluation, education, information and training, enforcement, physical intervention and incentives.

The 2010/11 National Litter Index showed that the amount of litter dropped has significantly reduced, reversing the trend of increasing litter levels over the previous three years.

KABC WA had over 8,000 community members and businesses involved in the educational litter program Adopt-a-Spot and in the area of enforcement, 3,882 (to end of June) litter infringement notices were issued as a result of the Litter Reporting Scheme. On average, 10 *Community Clean Ups* were conducted per month with 208 bags of rubbish collected per month.

There was a high level of participation in KABC WA community pride programs in 2010 with 336 category entries in the Tidy Towns Sustainable Communities (won by Westonia), 42 category entries for Clean Beach Awards (won by Rockingham) and 48 category entries for Sustainable Cities (won by City of Stirling).



Westonia - winner of the 2010 Tidy Towns Sustainable Communities Category with KABC.





## Conservation Council of Western Australia

The Authority's strategic partnership with the Conservation Council of Western Australia (CCWA) aims to assist CCWA to participate in waste management policy consultation on behalf of the community, and to work with their member groups and the broader community to support key waste management policies and reforms. CCWA is a non-profit conservation organisation and Western Australia's peak environment group.

## Western Australian Local Government Association

The Authority's partnership with the Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA) provides an effective consultation mechanism with the 141 Local Governments in Western Australia on waste management policy discussion and development.

WALGA, through the Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC), have undertaken research and development in three major policy areas. A position paper on waste management as an essential service explored the implications of waste management being considered an essential service. Discussion papers on waste management funding and waste management infrastructure were also produced.

All of the papers identified a range of activities for MWAC to pursue and these will be incorporated into the 2011/12 MWAC Business Plan.

Another key area of activity was providing constructive comment and engagement in development of Government policy and programs. Submissions were made to the Western Australian Planning Commission on several sub-regional strategies highlighting the need for consideration of waste management. At a national level, submissions were made on the development of the Product Stewardship Bill and the TVs and Computers Product Stewardship Scheme.

## Green Stamp Association

The program assists small to medium-sized businesses to incorporate processes that avoid, reduce, reuse, recycle and dispose of waste in an environmentally sustainable manner. Green Stamp was developed in conjunction with the Motor Trade Association (MTA), the Printing Industries Association of Australia (PIAA) and the Building Service Contractors Association of Australia (BSCAA).

This year, MTA Western Australia made excellent progress in advancing the strategic partnership goals. A

particular success is that a major Australian automotive chain; Automotive Holdings Group Ltd (AHG), now has all of their dealerships Green Stamp accredited. Additionally, the MTA Western Australia's Green Stamp Program won the City of Belmont Environmental Award 2010 for Water Management.

The Green Stamp program is also an aspect of the mechanical apprentices training course curriculum where they have to complete an environmental component of sustainable environmental practices in the automotive industry.

In the printing industry sector, the printing department of Central Institute of Technology is the first educational institute in Western Australia to gain Green Stamp accreditation. It is the major training institute for printing and pre-press apprentices.

Green Stamp implementation is extending within the supply chain of the cleaning industry with the accreditation of a cleaning industry chemical manufacturer. Membership is showing steady progress with a 26% increase from last year.

## Waste Management Association of Australia

The Authority has two strategic partnerships with the Western Australian branch of the Waste Management Association of Australia (WMAA).

The first partnership is with Compost Western Australia (Compost WA) which is a working group of WMAA and is the peak body that represents, promotes and supports the recycled organics industry sector. From July 2010 the Authority has funded the position of a Marketing and Industry Development Officer to promote and support sustainable market development of the recycled organics industry in Western Australia.

The compost industry is a significant component in providing a sustainable solution to the organic waste generated by society. This partnership assists in enhancing the role of Compost WA in facilitating the demand for compost in all markets (urban, agricultural and rehabilitation) and thereby diverting organic waste from landfill.

On 30 May 2011, Compost WA launched the inaugural Western Australia Compost Industry Awards at ChemCentre, Perth. The then Authority Chairman, Mr Jim Malcolm formerly opened the event, and presented Mr Bob Paulin from the Department of Agriculture and Food with the Western Australia Compost Lifetime Recognition Award.



Bob Paulin receives his **Compost WA Lifetime Achievement Award** from former Chairman Jim Malcolm

Source: Rohan Prince

The second partnership has a focus on commercial and industrial (C&I) waste management.

The Authority funded a pilot study on a co-contribution basis to examine the current blockages and barriers to recycling along the C&I waste supply chain in metropolitan Perth.

A workshop was held on 14 June 2011 for a cross-section of invited C&I waste generators, processors and stakeholders. The resulting report of outcomes will be submitted to the Authority in July 2011.

Partner	\$ Amount
Waste Management Association of Australia - WA Branch	25,000
Greenstamp	156,000
Keep Australia Beautiful Council	750,000
WA Local Government Association	100,000
Waste Management Association of Aust - Compost	100,000
Waste Wise Schools	688,000
Conservation Council of WA (utilising funds held over from 2010)	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,819,000</b>

## Avoidance

Avoidance programs supported through the Waste Authority include the strategic partnerships with Waste Wise Schools and KABC.

The work of the Waste Authority also contributed to the Environment Protection and Heritage Council (EPHC) commitment. Western Australia's financial contributions to inter-jurisdictional projects conducted under the auspices of the EPHC includes investigation into product stewardship initiatives.

## Recovery

The Zero Waste Plan Development Scheme (ZWPDS) was completed in 2010/2011. The Scheme funded local governments for preparation of Strategic Waste Management Plans (SWMP). The program captured over 94% of local governments in WA resulting in 122 local governments working collaboratively in 24 groupings and 12 local governments working independently, to develop SWMPs.

From July 2007 until June 2011 almost \$2.1m in funding was provided to local governments under the program.

The ZWPDS was followed up by the Regional Funding Program (RFP), a \$2.3m pilot program providing funding to local governments towards implementation of their SWMPs, which was completed during 2010/11.

The RFP funded 21 groupings of local governments, with a total of 64 individual projects being undertaken.

During the year, the Authority also made recommendations to the Minister for Environment for the continuation of the RFP for approximately \$6.7 million over 5 years under an amended format to commence in 2011/12. The Minister approved that recommendation.





An E-Waste Committee formed under s.18 of the WARR Act to prepare a preferred transitional collection model for e-waste in Western Australia completed its work in October 2010.

The Western Australian Transitional E-Waste Program (WATEP) will run for up to three years or until a national e-waste product stewardship scheme is introduced. The funding allocated to WATEP is \$1.5 million for up to three years.

The Hon Bill Marmion, MLA, Minister for Environment, launches WATEP



The Authority provided \$400,000 to support interim e-waste collections from metropolitan and non-metropolitan areas while the work of the E-Waste Committee was carried out. The interim e-waste program recovered 688 tonnes (390 tonnes metro; 298 tonnes non-metro).

Six metropolitan and six non-metropolitan local government organisations participated in the transitional program, which concluded on 31 December 2010.

The new WATEP commenced on 1 January 2011.

With the construction and demolition sector contributing the greatest amount of materials to landfill, the draft Waste Strategy outlines a number of commitments for increasing the recovery and recycling of this material. A state government working group has been formed to consider the development of guidelines and policy aimed at government leadership in the procurement of recycled construction and demolition materials for government construction activities.

The Waste Authority provides funding in support of DEC's role as jurisdictional representative for the Australian Packaging Covenant, a co-regulatory government and industry initiative to reduce packaging waste across Australia.

A function of the Jurisdiction is to manage projects jointly funded under the Covenant through the Jurisdictional Projects Group (JPG).

The Western Australian JPG is currently overseeing the progress of the following 10 projects that have been committed funds under the Covenant.

Funds committed (in principle) over the last 5 years (2005-2010) to JPG projects include:

- \$3,567,974.75 in jurisdictional (WARRA) funds
- \$2,740,441.76 in NPCIA (Industry) funds.

These funds leverage total Western Australian project budgets to the value of nearly \$22.8 million (figures quoted are ex GST), and are outlined below.

Organisation	JPG Project
Transpacific Cleanaway	C&I Packaging Recycling focused primarily on SMEs
Shire of Gingin	Gingin and Lancelin Recycling Stations
Colmax Glass Pty Ltd	New Glass Processing Plant in Perth
Shire of Augusta-Margaret River	Loading Infrastructure for Increased Recycling and Efficiency
Shire of Quairading	Co-located Waste Management and Recycling Facility
Veolia Environmental Ltd	RecyclePak
Packaging Stewardship Forum	Westfield Out and About Recycling
Packaging Stewardship Forum	Yum! Restaurants (KFC Australia)
Transpacific Cleanaway	Enhancing Plastic Recovery from Kerbside Recyclables
Hive Resource Recovery	Hamilton Hills Materials Recovery Facility Efficiency Project





Amy Warne shows the Minister the fashionable and “electrifying” way to spread the e-waste recycling message

## Disposal

This financial year saw the completion of the 2008-2010 Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) program funded under agreement with the Western Australian Local Government Association. During the period the Authority funded a new permanent collection facility at Toodyay and committed further funding to an eighth Metropolitan facility to be located at the JFR (Jim) McGeough Resource Recovery Facility in the Western Suburbs.

Unused paint continued to account for approximately half of all hazardous waste collected. The Authority established a working group to address this matter, through the development of a product stewardship plan for paint in WA. The Working Group comprises representatives from the Australian Paint Manufacturers Federation, The Master Painters (WA) Association, WALGA and DEC.

In March 2011 the Minister for Environment announced expenditure of approximately \$10 million over the life of a new four-year HHW program, again under agreement with WALGA. The new program will focus on permanent collection facilities.

In 2010/2011 there were eight HHW temporary collection days. These were attended by more than 2218 vehicles, and 72,650kg of HHW was collected and disposed of appropriately. Permanent facilities collected 232,429 Kg of HHW.

The Authority has provided funds to support continued e-waste collections from metropolitan and non-metropolitan areas while the work of the E-Waste Committee is carried out. A highly successful

e-waste collection day was run by Apple Inc. with assistance from WALGA to which the Authority contributed \$10,000. This resulted in 193,422kg being collected from eight collection sites involving 3,225 vehicles at an average of 60kg per vehicle.

Under a three year agreement with WALGA, the Waste Authority subsidised the cost of recycling used oil collected through local government depots.

During 2010/2011 the Authority contributed \$55,000 to local governments across Western Australia for waste oil.

## Current and Emerging Issues/Strategic Focus in 2011/12

In moving waste management in Western Australia towards best practice, the Waste Authority will investigate and pursue initiatives that assist selected industry sectors to improve the level of recovery.

There is a need to ensure that market economics for the waste management industry are better understood to ensure that interventions initiated by the Authority have the best chance of succeeding.

As a result of the new membership of the Authority, a directions statement has been developed that outlines the focus for the next twelve months which includes:

- Increased data collection
- Developing innovative approaches to recycling more C&D materials by government and industry
- Establishing new reference groups with industry representatives to focus on issues such as the complex C&I sector and work on measures to increase diversion from landfill
- Reviewing the progress of the Australian Packaging Covenant and considering complementary options for increasing the rate of recycling of packaging materials and controlling litter
- Reviewing the landfill levy

The Authority is developing an education plan which includes the roles and responsibilities of stakeholders.

A revised Waste Strategy is being prepared for release in early 2012.

The Waste Authority will continue to work closely with all levels of government and stakeholders in pursuing its strategic focus during 2011/2012.

## **Disclosures and Legal Compliance**

### **Comment on events occurring after the reporting period**

Peter Fitzpatrick was appointed as the new Chairman on 12th July 2011.

### **Pricing Policies**

The Waste Authority is funded from a proportion of the landfill levy imposed under the WARR Levy Act 2007.

The Waste Authority is a statutory body that has responsibility for administering the WARR Account. The Authority does not apply fees or charges for goods or services.

### **Ministerial Directives**

The Waste Authority received no Ministerial directives in the 2010/11 reporting period.

The Governor, on the advice of the Minister for Environment, appointed the new Chairman, Jim Malcolm, on 14<sup>th</sup> January. Four new members to the Waste Authority were also appointed on 17 May 2011.

### **Capital projects**

Colmax Glass was granted a National Packaging Covenant grant of \$3.9 million, \$1.95 million of which was allocated from the WARR Account, to establish a glass reprocessing plant in Western Australia. It was opened in August 2010 and commenced operation in February 2011.

### **Levy Collection and Compliance**

Until amendments were made to the WARR Levy Act in December 2009, the Waste Authority had a statutory role in the setting of the landfill levy and relevant regulations. While this is no longer a statutory function, the Waste Authority still has a role in advising the Minister on matters such as an appropriate landfill levy regime and levy collection and compliance is funded from the WARR Account.

The landfill levy is collected from about 26 individual sites, most of which are located within the metropolitan area. The landfill levy only applies to waste disposed at metropolitan landfills, or for waste disposed to landfill anywhere in the State which is generated in the metropolitan area.

At the present time, about five per cent of waste that is subject to the levy is disposed to landfill in regional areas, and the levy is being collected in these instances under the WARR Levy Regulations 2008, section 4(1) (b).

Monitoring the movement of waste beyond the metropolitan boundaries is part of DEC's landfill levy compliance monitoring function.

Landfills located in regional areas which receive metropolitan waste as part of their total waste are not required to have weighbridges or to undertake volumetric surveys. In these instances, the landfill levy liability is established by transport mode in accordance with DEC's Landfill Levy Administration Policy 2009.

Disputes with two landfill operators over landfill levy payments are currently being pursued by DEC.

### **Employment and Industrial Relations**

Staff in the Waste Management Branch and the Office of the Waste Authority are employed by DEC and are subject to DEC's industrial agreements, staffing policies, recruitment practices and professional development opportunities.

Workers compensation statistics are included in the DEC Annual Report for 2010/11.

<b>Payroll as at 30 June 2011</b>			
<b>Staffing Numbers</b>	<b>Waste Management Branch</b>	<b>OWA</b>	<b>Waste Authority</b>
Full Time Permanent	16	4	0
Part Time Permanent	3	2	0
Full Time Contract	0	0	0
Part Time Contract	0	0	5

## Governance Disclosures

The Waste Authority is a statutory authority established by the WARR Act, which provides for Authority members to have *skills, experience and knowledge in matters relating to sustainability, waste services or waste avoidance and resource recovery*.

This can mean that actual, perceived or potential conflicts of interest can arise in the course of the Authority considering business on agendas. The Waste Authority adopted a comprehensive Conflict of Interest Policy in August 2010, which outlines members' responsibility for managing conflicts of interest as well as procedures for making declarations. The policy is available at:  
[www.zerowastewa.com.au/whoswho/authority/governance](http://www.zerowastewa.com.au/whoswho/authority/governance).

The following disclosures of interest were made by Waste Authority members during the 2010/11 financial year:

- Deputy Chair, Jan Grimoldby declared a perceived conflict of interest at the February 2011 meeting with regard to participating in evaluation of a strategic partnership because of her role as executive officer of Parks and Leisure Australia. She was not required to absent herself from discussions or voting.
- Marcus Geisler's standing declaration of interest arising from his position as Treasurer of WMAA (WA Branch) ended in March 2011 with his resignation from that position. He absented himself from matters associated with WMAA.
- Paul Hardisty declared potential standing conflicts of interest, both pecuniary and non pecuniary, through his employment with Worley Parsons, thus being involved with waste generating industries throughout the State, and through his wife's voluntary membership of *Earth Carers*, an organisation that from time to time received funding from the Waste Authority.

He was not required to absent himself from discussion or votes on account of either declaration during 2010/11.

- Carolyn Jakobsen declared a standing conflict of interest in her capacity as a member of the Swan River Trust.
- Chairman, Jim Malcolm, declared a number of perceived conflicts of interest. He is the Chair of the

Contaminated Sites Committee (landfill causes or has capacity to contaminate soils).

Over the past decade, his consultancy has undertaken a number of contracts for DEC, including drafting the WARR Act and regulations and reviewing the *Litter Act 1979*. He also provided a stage 1 review of DEC documentation relating to Bauxite Resources Ltd operations in Shire of Chittering. BRL is chaired by former Waste Authority Chairman, Barry Carbon.

Mr Malcolm did not proceed to a stage 2 contract. He undertook a consultancy with the WMAA C&D Working Group and was the author of a submission to the Waste Authority on the management of C&D waste and the application of the landfill levy. He undertook a peer review of the Gorgon waste management plan and reviewed a referral document for the WMAA Chairman regarding composting.

No matters came before the Authority requiring him to absent himself from discussion or voting.

### Directors and Officers Liability Insurance

Insurance cover for Waste Authority members is provided under DEC's cover with arrangements for public liability, professional indemnity and employment practices insurance.

### Authority Members' Remuneration and Attendance at Meetings

Authority members received the following remuneration:

Position	\$ per annum
Chairman	39,100
Deputy Chairman	24,300
Member	19,600

There are nine records of 'Resolution without meeting' pursuant to Schedule 1, Division 2, clause 11 of the WARR Act.

Members Meeting Attendance	No. of meetings attended
Jim Malcolm	5*
Jan Grimoldby	11
Paul Hardisty	7
Carolyn Jakobsen	9
Marcus Geisler	11

\* Jim Malcolm's appointment commenced half way through the year. He attended all meetings.



## Other Legal Requirements

### Advertising

Section 175ZE of the Electoral Act 1907 requires the inclusion of a statement detailing all expenditure incurred by the Authority.

Type of Advertising	Group Totals \$	Grouped Details	Details	Amount \$
Advertising Agencies	29,946	Adcorp Australia	Grant schemes (SWIS & CGS)	21,546
			Advertising-Staff recruitment	8,175
		Email media	Advertising-Staff recruitment	225
Direct Mail	511	Campaign Monitor	Bulk emailing subscribers	260
		Australia Post	Bulk mail	250
			<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>30,456</b>

### Sponsorships

The Authority's sponsorship expenditure is detailed below:

The Authority provided \$10,000 to sponsor the *Resource and Waste Management* category of the DEC 2010 WA Environment Awards. The award was sponsored in the previous year and aligns with the Authority's core business. The winner is eligible for nomination in the annual *National Gecko Awards*.

The Authority supports the sponsorship of the Waste and Recycle Conference as it provides it with significant recognition as an organisation central to stakeholders in the sector. Only two gold sponsorships are offered by the organising committee.



**HIA Greensmart Award** winner, Paul Wedd of Instant Waste Management, receives his award from the former Chairman, Jim Malcolm

Other benefits include Waste Authority recognition through logo placement on the conference registration brochure, program booklet, website, satchels, sponsor banners and through the trade exhibition.

Two free registrations are also included for the 2 day conference. The Authority also agreed to host a *Breakfast with the Authority* event during the Conference to allow interested delegates to meet and discuss issues directly with Authority members.

Sponsored Recipient	\$ Amount
N Rasheed-Waste & Recycle Conference sponsored registration	441
C King-Waste & Recycle Conference sponsored registration	441
Waste Authority Awards Night-Waste & Recycle Conference	12,379
M Filby-travel & accom costs sponsorship for the Waste Awards	253
Western Metropolitan Regional Council-ICAW Sponsored Event:Composting & Waste Minimisation seminar	727
Western Metropolitan Regional Council-ICAW Sponsored Event:Composting & worm farming presentations & displays at libraries	727
Waste & Recycle 2011 Conference - Gold sponsorship	15,000
HIA Greensmart Awards	4,500
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>34,468</b>

## **Disability Access and Inclusion Plan Outcomes**

The DEC Disability Access and Inclusion Plan outcomes apply to the Waste Authority.

## **Compliance with Public Sector Standards and Ethical Codes**

The Waste Authority operates in a compliant manner with the Public Sector Standards and Ethical codes, albeit without yet having formalised a number of key aspects of the governance framework.

The Waste Authority reviewed its code and approved a revised Code of Conduct on 2 June 2010. An approved charter was also developed and approved in March and these documents are accessible from a new governance section of the website.

A communication agreement with the Minister's Office will be considered for approval by the Waste Authority during the early part of the next financial year.

Some elements of governance are managed by DEC on behalf of the Waste Authority.

## **Public Sector Principles**

### **Government and public sector relationship**

A draft Communication Agreement was considered by the Waste Authority in the early part of the 2010/2011 financial year and approved by the Minister for Environment.

Communication with the Minister's Office is along standard lines, whereby matters of substance are decided between the Minister and the Chairperson and the General Manager responds to day-to-day requests for information and provides updates on matters that have previously been decided between the Minister and the Chairperson.

### **Management and Oversight**

A Waste Authority Charter was endorsed by the Waste Authority in the March 2011.

### **Organisational Structure**

The Authority has no explicit employer role. Sections 16(1) and 17(1) of the WARR Act provide for the Minister to ensure that the Waste Authority is provided with services and facilities to enable it to perform its functions.

The OWA and the WMB are staffed by officers employed by DEC under the provisions of the *Public Sector Management Act 1994* and as provided for pursuant to section 16(1) of the WARR Act. Officers are subject to DEC human resources policy, information technology, administrative processes and other policy matters regulated by the Financial Management Act

2006 and the Treasurer's Instructions, but are otherwise subject to the direction of the Authority.

## **Operations**

The Office of the Waste Authority comprises the General Manager, Manager Strategic Partnerships, Manager Communications and Media Relations, Manager Policy and Executive Officers who support and implement the intentions of the Waste Authority.

A work plan has been developed and submitted to the Minister for consideration and approval for 2011/12.

## **Ethics and Integrity**

The Waste Authority adopted a Code of Conduct on 2 June 2010. The document was peer reviewed by the Office of the Public Sector Standards Commissioner and was based on the Public Sector Code of Ethics and model documents provided by the Public Sector Commissioner. The Code of Conduct expresses the Waste Authority's commitment to ethical decision making and professional behaviour and includes details of the process for public interest disclosures.

The Waste Authority also approved a conflict of interest policy with guidance from the Office of the Public Sector Standards Commissioner.

Procurement practices follow Government guidelines via the DEC procurement policy.

## **People**

Members of the Waste Authority are appointed by the Governor on the recommendation of the Minister for Environment.

All matters of recruitment, retention and management of the officers who support the Waste Authority are managed by DEC.

## **Finance**

Structured processes are in place within DEC to monitor and audit the financial performance of the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Account, as required by section 81 of the WARR Act and in accordance with the *Financial Management Act 2006* (FMA). The administration of the WARR Account is regarded as a DEC service for the purposes of section 52 of the FMA.

## **Communication**

The Waste Authority's Code of Conduct comprehensively outlines how the Authority ensures that official information remains confidential to the Authority, describes the process for public interest disclosure and provides guidelines on freedom of information.

The Waste Authority ensures that records of decisions and all other documentation is securely retained.



Minutes of Authority meetings are promptly circulated to members.

In addition to maintaining the website, the Authority communicates through media releases, Communiqués and other communications prepared by the Office of the Waste Authority.

### **Risk Management**

The DEC Risk Management Section is responsible for developing and implementing risk management policies and procedures in regard to occupational safety and health, general liability and the corporate insurance portfolio.

### **Record Keeping Plans**

Waste Authority compliance with the State Records Act 2000 is currently by association with the DEC Record Keeping Plan. The Waste Authority follows a range of procedures required under the *State Records Act 2000*.

In addition a Customer Relationship Management system was specifically developed by the Communications Manager for the OWA to track correspondence and provide multi-user access to record client interactions.

A draft Record Keeping Plan is being developed and will be submitted to the State Records Commission. Work on this aspect of governance will continue through 2011.

## **Government Policy Requirements**

### **Substantive Equality**

As the employing body, DEC has carriage of a Policy Framework for Substantive Equality. The DEC Substantive Equality Statement/Statement Flexible Working Arrangements is an element of job advertisement text.

It states that DEC is an equal opportunity employer and encourages Indigenous Australians, young people, people with disabilities, people from culturally diverse backgrounds and women to apply for positions within the agency. It also promotes flexible working arrangements.

Denmark's Tipshop - Transforming Trash seminar



## Appendix

### Audited Financial Statements

Balances and transactions for special purpose accounts such as the WARR Account are separately identified in a note to the financial statements included in DEC's Annual Report. A summary appears below:

Statement of Cash Flows - For the year ended 30 June 2011	
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	
<b>Payments</b>	
<b>Staffing</b>	
Waste Management Branch direct costs	-\$1,684,549.56
Waste Management Branch and OWA indirect costs 10/11	-\$1,043,240.00
<b>Grants</b>	
Strategic Waste Initiatives Scheme and Community Grants Scheme	-\$1,047,299.53
<b>Sponsorship</b>	-\$34,468.30
<b>Partnership Funding</b>	-\$381,007.00
Waste Wise Schools Grants	-\$160,788.00
Waste Wise Schools	-\$525,000.00
Litter Prevention Strategy through KABC	-\$750,000.00
Recycled Organics Market Development	-\$4,807.75
<b>Local Government</b>	
Household Hazardous Waste	-\$2,594,772.10
Used Oil Management	-\$28,057.74
Regional Funding Program	-\$376,659.07
<b>Waste Authority</b>	
Major Initiatives	-\$585,000.00
Authority Web Site	-\$9,166.53
<b>Policy and Issue advice for Government</b>	
<b>Governance, Operations and Executive Support</b>	
Data Program	-\$109,803.01
National Packaging Covenant (NPC)	-\$481,623.86
Infrastructure Planning	-\$15,259.99
Staffing of Office of the Waste Authority	-\$738,884.00
Chairman's Discretionary Fund	-\$13,914.68
<b>Other</b>	
Environment Protection and Heritage Council	-\$8,525.08
Inactive 09/10 projects (with costs in 10/11)	-\$37,590.89
Waste Strategy Implementation	
<b>E-Waste</b>	-\$362,397.59
Product Stewardship Programs	-\$1,112.47
Construction and Demolition	-\$573.24
<b>Receipts</b>	
WARRA Landfill Levy	\$11,000,000.00
Account interest	\$767,384.98
Miscellaneous	\$462,301.01
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$1,225,785.02
Cash at the beginning of period	\$14,300,415.10
<b>CASH AT THE END OF PERIOD</b>	<b>\$15,526,200.12</b>