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Ref: DER WARR Act review – Public submission



Instant waste management is the largest private family owned waste & recycling company in Western Australia. We have recently invested in a large waste processing Material Recovery Facility in Bayswater with further industry strategic alliances & EPA approval in place for more processing plants in WA in the future.

IWM welcome the chance to engage in the consultation process on the WARR Act review & note that section 99 of the WARR Act states the review should be carried out within 12 months of its fifth year anniversary. Therefore we feel this review should have been engaged with industry much earlier in 2014 but after the release of the finding by the SWIPP (State Waste Infrastructure Planning Policy) committee. Which are still held private by the Western Australian Minister for the Environment after being released by the Waste Authority to his office in late 2014 following our initial engagement by industry back in 2012.

Without prompt release of consultation documentation that cover the areas of governance and infrastructure planning for our waste industry by the government to the private sector, it is difficult to establish the true intent of the meaning of the "Waste Groups" that have been proposed in many other public submissions on waste governance by WALGA, WMAA on the WARR Act review.

Our State Resource Development Manager is active on the WMAA WA Branch Executive committee & well established as an active member of their C&D working group. He also helps the MBA, UDIA, GBCA & the HIA as we are formal members of these associations & as our first point of contact on waste advocacy issues. We also have representation on the Waste Industry Alliance.

In the WARR Act areas of Product Stewardship could look at the use of recycled materials by government departments like Main Roads WA; following its removal & potential damage to the much wider influenced end markets for recycling C&D waste by-products within its specifications. WA is the only mainland state in Australia to remove recycled materials from its road building specification at the same time the government is creating a large revenue stream into consolidated revenue via the 2015 increased landfill levy on C&D waste products that don't get recycled.

Perhaps the enforcement of a minimum percentage of "recycled material used by tonnage, as well as value" on government funded infrastructure projects is able to be addressed in the WARR Act?

Another area of legislation to consider would be the introduction of a tax on basic raw materials similar to those systems in place in other developed countries around the world.

IWM also feel that a greater percentage (75%) of the allocated hypothecated funds raised by the landfill levy should be paid forward into the purchasing of industrial land sites that are currently excluded in the long term planning policies of the WA Planning Commission & Directions 2031. It's all very well building large departments that absorb this levy funding but they need to release documents on time and be more accountable to a private sector or mixed sector economic model.