

reThink Waste!
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Turning rubbish into resources— Queensland's case for reform

EIANZ Waste Futures Forum—July 2011

Toward 
Tomorrow's Queensland

 **Queensland**
Government

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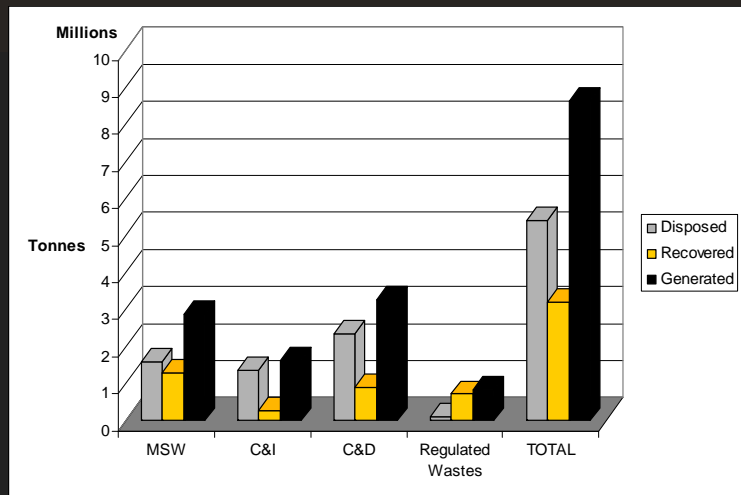
The case for reform

- 1996 Strategy was unfunded
- No targets
- No legislative basis for innovative waste management practices
- No strong price or regulatory signal
- Lack of accurate data



Drivers for reform

- unsustainable rate of waste generation and disposal
- no incentive for industry investment
- poor performance in comparison to other States
- the potential for Queensland to become the ‘dumping ground’ for interstate wastes
- inability to respond to contemporary issues—eg the carbon tax



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Queensland's response—design principles for reform

- A strong foundation—strategy that sets policy and signals priorities + a contemporary legislative framework
- A basis to improve resource recovery and drive investment—regulatory tools
- Re-investment
- Recognition of the role played by landfill

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Queensland's response—a 5-pronged approach

- Targets
- A price signal
- Stronger legislation
- Significant program investment
- Partnerships

Underpinning it all—better data

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What is required to meet our targets?

	2008	2014	2017	2020
Commercial & Industrial				
Target	18%	40%	50%	60%
Tonnes generated	1,640,000	1,923,128	2,163,258	2,433,371
<i>Tonnes to be recovered/recycled</i>	<i>295,200</i>	<i>769,251</i>	<i>1,081,629</i>	<i>1,460,022</i>
Construction & Demolition				
Target	35%	50%	60%	75%
Tonnes generated	4,950,000	5,804,565	6,529,346	7,344,626
<i>Tonnes to be recovered/ recycled</i>	<i>1,732,500</i>	<i>2,902,282</i>	<i>4,244,075</i>	<i>5,508,470</i>
Municipal Solid Waste				
Target	23%	50%	55%	65%
Tonnes generated	2,883,000	3,380,719	3,802,849	4,277,688
<i>Tonnes to be recovered/recycled</i>	<i>663,090</i>	<i>1,690,359</i>	<i>2,091,567</i>	<i>2,780,497</i>



The waste disposal levy

- to encourage waste avoidance and resource recovery and enhance industry investment
- funding to improve waste management
- more consistency in landfill pricing with other Australian jurisdictions—removing the economic incentive for interstate waste to be ‘dumped’ in Queensland.

Waste levy category	\$ per tonne
Commercial and industrial waste	35
Construction and demolition waste	35
Contaminated and acid sulphate soils	35
Lower hazard regulated waste	50
Higher hazard regulated waste	150
Municipal solid waste	0

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New legislative framework

New:

- Waste Reduction and Recycling Act
- Waste Reduction and Recycling Regulation

Old:

- Environmental Protection (Waste Management Regulation) 2000
- Environmental Protection (Waste Management) Policy 2000
- Relevant provisions transferred into the new Act and Regulations

Amended:

- Environmental Protection Act 1994
- Environmental Protection Regulation 2008

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Six thematic program areas for re-investment

- Infrastructure & Market development
- Research and development
- Capacity building
- Local government support
- Compliance
- Strategic and national initiatives

Total investment over four years of \$159 million

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Better data

- the levy will drive better data
- more data will be captured with mandatory reporting by recycling facilities
- a roadmap for data collection
- working closely with other jurisdictions