Queensland's current waste management practices need urgent attention?

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WCRAQ
Waste Contractors and Recyclers Association of Queensland (inc)

State Government Claims:

Waste Reforms Communications July 2011

- Queensland’s current waste management practices need urgent attention.

Ministerial Media Statement 10 June 2011

- “Our waste strategy is aimed at fixing this.”

15 June 2011 Waste Reforms Communication

- The government has set bold targets to go from one of the worst recyclers in the country to one of the best, starting with cutting the amount of waste going to landfill in half by 2020.

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The Facts

- Queenslanders have no waste crisis. We never have.
- Queensland's demographics result in select waste area pressure points.
- Queenslanders are not the worst recyclers in Australia.
- Landfilling waste underpins the management of all waste globally and is totally acceptable.
- Poor landfill practices should not be tolerated.
- *Private sector* assets in Queensland's are among Australia's best.

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QLD…So what do we really look like?

The WCRAQ Member Statistics *** Confirmed July 2011**

- Private sector assets exceed 2 Billion Dollars.
- Contribution to Queensland's economy in excess of Billion Dollars PA.
- Directly employ more than 6,500 Queenslander's (excluding contractors which can multiply a factor of up to 4 in some cases).
- We collect, transport, manage, recycle, reprocess, recover, export, manufacture locally burn for energy recovery, and landfill in excess of 6.5 million tonnes annually.

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QLD’s Waste & Recycling Infrastructure

- Solid Waste and Recycling collections, Domestic, Commercial, and Industrial
- Liquid Waste and Recycling, Domestic, Commercial and Industrial
- Transfer Station Operations
- Construction and Demolition waste collection and recycling services
- Concrete & Asphalt Recycling Operations
- Resource Recovery, Product Destruction services
- Landfills incl Bio Reactors, to manage all waste streams
- Solid and Liquid Waste Treatment and stabilization plants,
- Materials Recovery Facilities, Domestic and Commercial recyclables
- Hazardous Waste Treatment- Collections and Treatment
- Waste to Energy Plants
- Metals Recycling and Recovery
- Paper and Cardboard Recycling and Re Manufacturing
- Used and Aged Timber Recyclers, Tyre Recycling, Styrene recycling
- Composting facilities, Confidential Paper Destruction services
- Medical, Quarantine and Regulated Waste Collection and Treatment

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QLD Waste & Resource Management Profile

Total Household & Business Generation	10.3 Million Tonnes
Total Reported Recycled 30 %	3.1 Million Tonnes
Queensland's Alleged Problem	7.2 Million Tonnes

*Source Waste Strategy Consultation Draft June 2010

Our Current Poor Recycling Performance 2009/10

*State	* Waste Generation (000)	* Resource Recovery %	** Waste Levy Status July 2010 – June 2011
NSW	16,785	58 %	Metro - $ 70.30 Regional $ 20.40
Victoria	10,598	60 %	Metro All $ 30.00 Rural MSW $1 15.00 C&I $25.00
Queensland	**9,568**	**43 %**	**No Waste Levy**
Western Australia	5,898	31 %	Putrescible % 28.00 Inert $ 12.00 m3
South Australia	3,332	68 %	Metro $ 25.20 Regional $ 12.90
Tasmania	535	17%	Council's Levy $ 2.00
ACT	846	76 %	Household - $64.15 C&I - $113.85
Northern Territory	154	3 %	**No Waste Levy**
Total	47,712	52 %	

*Source: Industry Report: Volumes and Values: Inside Waste ; June 2011 Page 14
**Source: WCRAQ - Hyder Jurisdictional Report July 2010

“Bold targets to go from one of the worst recyclers in the country to one of the best.”

Queensland’s Waste Strategy Targets (Baseline)	**2008**	**2014**	**2017**	**2020**
Increase recycling of construction and demolition waste	**35 %**	50 %	60 %	75 %
Increase recycling of commercial and industrial waste	**18 %**	40 %	50 %	60 %
Increase recycling of regulated waste	**30 %**	35 %	40 %	45 %
Increase recycling of municipal solid waste	**23 %**	50 %	55 %	65 %

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So what do the targets represent in real tonnes?

	*Baseline 2008	2014	2017	2020
C&D	1.202 Mill	180 K	300 K	480 K
C&I	1.361Mill	299 K	435 K	571 K
Regulated waste	114 K	5,700	11,400	17,100
MSW	1.2 Mill	324 K	384 K	504 K

*Source DERM Data

180,000 tonnes by 2014 – Operational Impacts

- Transporting this volume equates to 10,000 truck movements
- Representing > 5000 hours of continuous heavy vehicle driving
- Loading and unloading equates to > 2500 hours continuous plant running time.
- <u>*These estimates exclude*</u> the preparatory time, demolition work, pre-sort and assume mixed product is ready for loading and transporting

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This ship carries an equivalent 300,000 tonnes of product fully loaded or 15,000 containers.

Maersk Line – *largest container ship in the world!*

QLD's Strategy – External & Internal Pressure Points

- **External**
  - Future Federal Government Carbon Tax
  - Queensland's fragile economic business operating environment
- **Internal**
  - Fractured policy drivers and user pay's exclusions

External Carbon Tax

- Reduction June 2012 off road equipment fuel excise (6.5c)
- Recycling facility with 2 excavators, 2 Loaders and a Dozer an increase fuel operating costs of $1000 per month.
- Major QLD operation expects the following:
  - BAU Operating P&E fuel costs increases $ 14,800 pa
  - Electricity costs increases expected > 20 % $ 40,000 pa

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The Economic Cost

- Additional tonnes recovered have to compete against primary producers in a fragile business economy.
- A high A$ makes exports more expensive and imports more attractive.
- This limits potential opportunities.

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100,000 separate loads of
this a year!

QLD's Future Strategy – Lost Investment Opportunity

- Political agenda's between state and local government politicians leave it totally undermined.
- Survey of WCRAQ members conducted in July 2011, provides evidence that Queensland's greatest gap in industry assets is in alternate waste treatment facilities' and refuse derived fuel plants.

Can our targets be achieved?

- Victorian Auditor General's (VAGO) recently conducted an audit of Municipal Solid Waste Management in Victoria.
- Outcomes
  - *"Ineffective planning, leadership and oversight have resulted in inadequate coordination of implementation and limited progress in implementing the TZW actions."*
  - *"Future performance in relation to municipal solid waste is likely to be further hindered by the ongoing challenge of establishing sustainable businesses to recycle organic material, and to adequately develop more advanced alternative waste recycling and recovery facilities."*

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Queensland’s Strategy

- Has no regional or local performance indicators for any MSW target for any period.
- By agreeing to put a $0 value on MSW
  - Future industry investment is held back
  - Real organics recovery is unlikely
  - MSW targets will be missed by 2014
- The VAGO Audit Report confirmed milestones are essential if targets are to be achieved.

Queensland’s Challenge

- Failure to achieve the desired targets and milestones provides government false reason to constantly increase the burden of user pays models on the community.
- Setting of unrealistic unmeasurable and false objectives gives rise to the waste tax being increased over time.

Is this what we really want from a strategy that we have waited more than 20 years for?

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- *Queensland's waste and recycling industry is an essential service provider, a very professional industry that we all need and rely on.*

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Living together in Queensland