

The Hon. Jay Weatherill, MP  
Minister for Local Government  
Parliament House  
178 North Terrace  
ADELAIDE SA 5000

CONTACT:  
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REFERENCE:  
270/5/2

Dear Minister

**City of Salisbury's Proposed Recycle Park – Dry Creek**

I refer to our conversation of 30<sup>th</sup> August 2002, relating to the City of Salisbury's proposed "integrated waste precinct", (Recycle Park), and in response to your request, I provide the following background information.

The City of Salisbury has for some years, been involved in seeking Best Practice waste management. Council's concern has intensified recently due to spiralling waste disposal costs at the Adelaide City Council's Wingfield landfill site.

It is therefore Council's intention to provide a precinct focussed on materials and energy recovery at a stabilised cost. To achieve this aim, it is necessary that the City of Salisbury retains ownership of the process, and hence its interest in developing the Dry Creek site.

In 1998 a report prepared by Nolan ITU entitled "*A Blueprint for Integrated Resource Recovery within Metropolitan Adelaide*" for the then "*Recycle 2000*" waste organization, identified the need for a major waste management centre to service the northern suburbs of Adelaide. The report recognised that metropolitan landfill sites would soon be filled, and that long distance haulage to landfill would then occur.

With the closure of the Adelaide City Council's Wingfield landfill site in December 2004, this prediction is becoming a reality.

Consequently, the need for a significant waste centre focussed on maximum re-use and recycling of domestic, commercial and industrial wastes is evident, not only to contain landfill disposal costs, but also to provide environmentally acceptable waste management practices.

The proposed Recycle Park will comprise four main operations, namely; a baling plant, a materials resource recovery facility (MRRF), a future waste to energy plant, and a hard, and commercial waste recycling operation.

1) Materials Recycling Recovery Facility (MRRF)

It is proposed that the MRRF will be operated by the Northern Adelaide Waste Management Authority (NAWMA, comprising the member-councils of Salisbury, Playford and Gawler), and will receive kerbside recyclable materials from the NAWMA region and from other council areas. The materials will be sorted and returned to markets, in accordance with usual practice. It is proposed to relocate this facility from Elizabeth West to Dry Creek.

2) Waste to Energy Facility

Provision will be made on the site for the establishment of a waste to energy operation. This operation will be established within the next few years to avoid the necessity of identifying and accessing remote landfill sites, which is, of course, inappropriate for both environmental and economic reasons.

It is envisaged that a non-incinerator-type process will treat domestic and other wastes suitable to the process. Residual waste and materials that cannot be processed in this way will be baled for landfill disposal. It is estimated that up to 30 megawatts of power will be produced by this process.

3) Hard Waste Recyclable and Disposal Operation:

The focus of the hard waste operation will be on the recovery and recycling/re-use of materials. Members of the public, in addition to commercial operators, will be able to utilise this site to dispose of domestic and commercial/industrial hard waste within an under-cover, clean and well-organised facility. The following materials will be included in the waste stream for recovery:

Concrete, gravels, bituminous materials, masonry, soils, green waste, timber, metals, plastic, glass, rags, cardboard and white goods.

Features of the operation will include:

- a) Separation of light and heavy traffic movements
- b) Provision of a sales office for recovered materials.
- c) Innovation in providing ease of disposal for resident loads (no reversing manoeuvres required).
- d) Automation where appropriate to streamline cartage and sorting operations; ie., to include construction and demolition materials.
- f) Under cover, on-site facilities for crushing concrete and masonry, mulching green waste and separation of mixed loads.
- g) Close proximity to east and west areas of Adelaide.

4) Baling Plant:

It is proposed that the baling plant will be operated by NAWMA. It will bale domestic waste, and waste from the MRRF, for cartage and disposal to the Medlow Road (Uleybury) landfill site. The plant will also be available for baling waste from the hard waste facility where practicable.

The City of Salisbury has a policy that encourages involvement of private sector interests in the operation of the plant, and positive discussions are currently occurring with local, Interstate and overseas providers. It is interesting to note that at this stage, local operators have demonstrated considerable innovation in their submissions, and this is being taken into consideration in Salisbury's assessment.

The planning processes associated with establishment of the Recycle Park involve a re-zoning and planning application, together with application for EPA approval.

The City of Salisbury therefore seeks your co-operation in facilitating the efficient processing of these applications to assist us in achieving a positive outcome to this innovative project.

Yours faithfully

**Tony Zappia**  
MAYOR

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