

Australia.




23rd August, 2011

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Waste Reduction and Recycling Bill, 2011 - Submission.

I understand that EAREC are seeking submissions on the above bill which in essence introduces a levy on the disposal of industrial and commercial waste. Having regard to my own experience in London in dealing with the resultant problems, I have set out below my views as a private individual on the proposed legislation relating to this aspect of the Bill:

Background experience: The committee will no doubt be interested to learn that I was Head of the Estate Management of one of the largest London Boroughs when it seems a similar piece of legislation was introduced in the UK. I was responsible for the management of many Council owned land holdings in green belt and urban settings.

Practical effect of the UK Legislation: It became quite clear to my fellow officers in the council, that on the introduction of this legislation, there was a considerable increase in the amount of fly tipping / illegal dumping on council owned land. The fly tipping was evident throughout the Borough and in the most inconvenient locations. One morning I even noted that several tons of spoil had been dumped at the bottom of my road obstructing the entrance to a block of units. It must be noted that this problem was no doubt exacerbated by a building boom in London at that particular time.

Preventative measures: We looked at a number of measures to try and mitigate this problem which was costing the council considerable sums of money in clearing away the waste. The most obvious one was securing their land by concrete bollards / blocks, fences, gates and ditches. It was never going to be foolproof but did help. These measures were also taken at that time to reduce the amount of trespassing by travellers who were causing a great deal of damage.

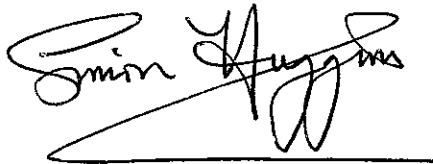
Penalties: Although there were financial penalties for the fly tippers, they were rarely caught and the level of fines in any case did not act as a deterrent. The police advised the Council that there was evidence that the criminal fraternity were heavily involved as

there was little likelihood of being caught and the fines were punitive in relation to the lucrative business.

Conclusions: Whilst it must be acknowledged that the aims of the Bill are commendable and bring Queensland into line with the other States, the committee would be wise to consider some of the consequences mentioned above which may arise if this Bill is enacted without adequate preventative provisions for illegal dumping. I would hate to think that many of Queensland's open spaces would be spoiled by unsightly rubbish/waste being illegally dumped.

I hope this submission will be of some interest to the committee and if you require any further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Simon Huggins", written over a horizontal line.

Simon Huggins.

Addressee:
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