

What is the purpose of the program?

The waste and resource recovery industry has seen significant growth in recent years, due to an increase in construction, underlying population growth, government recycling initiatives and market responses to community expectations. The waste and resource recovery industry provide important services to the community of NSW. However, the community must be able to have confidence that facilities are operating in accordance with the conditions of consents to ensure appropriate protection for local residents and the environment.

The objective of the program was to evaluate compliance against conditions of consent, improve the Department's 'on-the-ground' knowledge of the operation of State Significant waste and resource recovery sites, and increase the industry's awareness of consent requirements.

The program focused on the following conditions of consent:

- Limits on waste throughputs
- On-site water management
- Traffic and transport conditions
- Administration and reporting obligations
- Completion of independent environmental audits and follow-up actions

Which facilities were included in the program?

Since 2017, the Department has undertaken a program of inspections and compliance review of State Significant waste and resource recovery facilities.

During the program, the following facilities were subject to targeted inspections:

- Visy Smithfield Materials Recovery Facility (DA 13/94)
- Cleanaway Refiners Waste Oil Processing Facility (MP 05_0037)
- Enviroking Waste Facility Black Hill (MP 07_0048)
- Kembla Grange Resource Recovery Facility (SSD_5300)
- Tharbogang Quarry & Landfill (MP 06_0334)
- Bald Hill Quarry & Regional Landfill (DA 262-09-01)
- Patons Lane Resource Recovery Centre (MP 09_0074)
- Hydrodec Waste Oil Facility (MP 05_0115)
- Kimbriki Resource Recovery Project (MP 10_0065)
- Visy Alexandria Waste Management Facility (SSD 6176)
- Kings Park Resource Recovery Facility (Sell & Parker) (SSD 5041)
- Penrith Glass Beneficiation Plant (SSD 5267)
- Boral Widemere Resource Recovery Facility (SSD 14_6525)
- Woodlawn Waste Management Facility (DA 31-02-99)

Waste and Resource Recovery Industry Compliance Program

April 2019

- Kelso Waste Facility (DA 193-9-2005)
- Orange Waste Facility (MP 09_0025)
- Whytes Gully Landfill Extension (MP 11_0094)
- Suez Spring Farm Resource Recovery Project (MP 05_0098)
- Veolia Clyde Waste Transfer (DA 205-08-01)
- Chester Hill Waste Facility (SSD 06_0052)
- Banksmeadow Waste Transfer Terminal (SSD 5855)

Additionally, the following facilities were required to conduct independent environmental audits in accordance with conditions of consent:

- Tharbogang Quarry & Landfill (MP 06_0334)
- Whytes Gully Landfill Extension (MP 11_0094)
- Suez Advanced Waste Treatment Project, Kemps Creek (MP 06_0185)
- Suez Resource Recovery Project, Lucas Heights (SSD 6835)
- Suez Spring Farm Resource Recovery Project (MP 05_0098)
- Cleanaway Refiners Waste Oil facility (MP 05_0037)
- Bald Hill Quarry & Regional Landfill (DA 262-09-01)

What did the program find?

While most facilities were found to be operating in accordance with conditions of consent, some non-compliances were identified. Some sites are still the subject of ongoing investigations.

The non-compliances were assessed against the Department's Compliance Policy resulting in the Department issuing 14 Official Cautions, 19 Penalty Infringement Notices, 5 Orders and the completion of one prosecution.

The non-compliances broadly relate to the following areas:

- Failure to prepare, submit or publish project related documentation such as Independent Environmental Audit Reports, Annual Reviews, environmental management plans and monitoring results; and
- Failure to comply with or implement management measures such as hours of operation, waste throughput limits, odour control, traffic restrictions, and failure to conduct monitoring.

Information regarding these non-compliances can be found in the Department's monthly compliance reports on [our website](#).

What next?

The Department will continue to follow up with facilities to ensure action plans are developed and implemented to address matters raised by independent environmental audits, the Department's site inspections and non-compliances identified. The progress of these actions is required be reported in the respective facility's annual report.



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