Weston Aluminium processing trial approved

Weston Aluminium’s limited trial of the processing of pharmaceutical and drug waste material will be subject to stringent security controls as part of the conditions of its approval issued by the Department of Planning and Environment.

The security measures that need to be in place include:

- NSW Police supervision of the processing of the illicit drug waste
- Immediate destruction of illicit drug waste under the supervision of NSW Police
- Transportation of the pharmaceutical waste by licenced operators only
- A detailed security protocol regarding the secure storage of pharmaceutical waste

A departmental spokesperson said there are currently limited options for disposing of these products in NSW and this trial is part of a diversification of Weston Aluminium’s business.

“The limited trial – at the company’s existing facility - will be conducted over two years and is also subject to strict environmental conditions to manage environmental impacts including air quality.

“A limit on the amount of material which can be processed is also part of the conditions of consent,” the spokesperson said.

The Department has also recently doubled the number of compliance officers to ensure that companies meet their approval conditions and now has the highest on-the-spot fines in the country.

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