

**Landfill, non organic (dry) waste disposal site,  
Reserve 25252, Wanneroo Road, Nowergup**

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**H A & K M Athorn**

**Proposed change to Environmental Conditions**

**Report of the Environmental Protection Authority**

**Environmental Protection Authority  
Perth, Western Australia  
Bulletin 665  
December, 1992**

#### THE PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT

This report contains the Environmental Protection Authority's environmental assessment and recommendations to the Minister for the Environment on the environmental acceptability of the proposal.

Immediately following the release of the report there is a 14-day period when anyone may appeal to the Minister against the Environmental Protection Authority's report.

After the appeal period, and determination of any appeals, the Minister consults with the other relevant ministers and agencies and then issues his decision about whether the proposal may or may not proceed. The Minister also announces the legally binding environmental conditions which might apply to any approval.

#### APPEALS

If you disagree with any of the contents of the assessment report or recommendations you may appeal in writing to the Minister for the Environment outlining the environmental reasons for your concern and enclosing the appeal fee of \$10.

It is important that you clearly indicate the part of the report you disagree with and the reasons for your concern so that the grounds of your appeal can be properly considered by the Minister for the Environment.

#### ADDRESS

Hon Minister for the Environment  
12th Floor, Dumas House  
2 Havelock Street  
WEST PERTH WA 6005

#### CLOSING DATE

Your appeal (with the \$10 fee) must reach the Minister's office no later than 5.00 pm on 29th December, 1992.

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# 1. Background

H A & K M Athorn (the proponent) received approval from the Minister for the Environment to develop a non organic (dry) landfill at Reserve 25252, Wanneroo Road, Nowergup on 7 June 1991 subject to a number of legally binding Environmental Conditions (Appendix 1). That approval was given after an assessment of information and commitments provided by the proponents, receipt of public and government agency submissions, and release of the Environmental Protection Authority's Report and Recommendations on the proposal (EPA Bulletin 470).

The site has been operational since early September 1991 and is expected to be operational for only a few more months.

In providing a definition of dry inert materials which would be acceptable at the site, the Environmental Protection Authority needed to define what materials would be considered dry, because some materials with a high liquid content are essentially solid materials. In order to provide an example of a material with a high water content which would be considered to be a sludge, rather than a dry material, the Authority used wet concrete as an example.

In July 1992 the Environmental Protection Authority received an application for a concrete batching plant at a location not far from Reserve 25252 and issued a works approval. The proponent (H A & K M Athorn) appealed to the Minister for the Environment, partly on the basis that the restriction placed on the deposition of wet concrete at Reserve 25252 was inconsistent with the works approval for a nearby location. The Minister for the Environment dismissed the appeal and requested the Environmental Protection Authority to inquire into and report on whether or not environmental conditions placed on the above proposal should be changed.

## 2. Advice of the Environmental Protection Authority

Environmental Condition 3 states that "The proponent shall only permit disposal of dry inert fill or other materials approved by the Environmental Protection Authority at Quarry Reserve 25252, to the satisfaction of the Environmental Protection Authority on advice of the City of Wanneroo".

The Environmental Protection Authority considers that wet concrete would generally set quickly and generate only small amounts of suspended solids. The suspended solids would be filtered out by the water passing through sand before it reached the groundwater. The pH of the water would be consistent with water found in the limestone environment at Quarry Reserve 25252. Therefore, the disposal of wet concrete at Quarry Reserve 25252 is environmentally acceptable.

**The Environmental Protection Authority approves the disposal of wet concrete at Quarry Reserve 25252.** Environmental Protection Authority approval is sufficient to allow wet concrete to be landfilled so no change to environmental conditions is required.

# **Appendix 1**

## **Environmental conditions**



WESTERN AUSTRALIA  
MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

**STATEMENT THAT A PROPOSAL MAY BE IMPLEMENTED (PURSUANT  
TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT  
1986)**

LANDFILL, WASTE DISPOSAL SITE, RESERVE 25252, WANNEROO ROAD,  
NOWERGUP

H A AND K M ATHORN

This proposal may be implemented subject to the following conditions:

- 1 In implementing the proposal, the proponent shall fulfil the commitments (which are not inconsistent with the conditions or procedures contained in this statement) made in the Consultative Environmental Review. (A copy of the commitments is attached).
- 2 Subject to these conditions, the manner of detailed implementation of the proposal shall conform in substance with that set out in any designs, specifications, plans or other technical material submitted by the proponent to the Environmental Protection Authority with the proposal. Where, in the course of that detailed implementation, the proponent seeks to change those designs, specifications, plans or other technical material in any way that the Minister for the Environment determines on the advice of the Environmental Protection Authority, is not substantial, those changes may be effected.
- 3 The proponent shall only permit disposal of dry inert fill or other materials approved by the Environmental Protection Authority at Quarry Reserve 25252, to the satisfaction of the Environmental Protection Authority on advice of the City of Wanneroo.
- 4 Prior to the commencement of landfilling, the proponent shall clean up any materials presently at the site which do not conform to the requirements of condition 3 above, and shall provide a status report on the cleanliness of the site, in consultation with the City of Wanneroo and to the satisfaction of the Environmental Protection Authority.
- 5 The proponent shall manage the site such that valuable components of the wastes received, in particular the metals, are recycled, to the satisfaction of the Environmental Protection Authority.
- 6 Prior to the commencement of landfilling, the proponent shall prepare and Environmental Monitoring and Management Programme to the satisfaction of the Environmental Protection Authority. This programme shall include, but shall not be limited to, the following:
  - a The proposed strategy for clean-up of a range of possible pollution events;

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- b Water quality standards, a breach of which may bring about implementation of the proposed strategy for clean-up. These water quality standards shall be developed in consultation with the Water Authority of Western Australia; and
- c Groundwater monitoring and reporting during operation of the site and for a period of five years after site closure, with a review to determine the need for further monitoring.
- 7 The proponent shall implement the Environmental Monitoring and Management Programme (see condition 6) and shall manage disposal at the site to the satisfaction of the City of Wanneroo.
- 8 The proponent shall dispose of sewage wastes from on-site facilities off-site or at a location on-site where there is a minimum separation of 2 metres between the base of the leach drain and bedrock or limestone, to the satisfaction of the Environmental Protection Authority on advice of the City of Wanneroo.
- 9 The proponent shall be responsible for decommissioning and removal of any plant and installations and rehabilitating the site and its environs to the satisfaction of the Environmental Protection Authority. At least six months prior to decommissioning, the proponent shall prepare and subsequently implement a decommissioning and rehabilitation plan to the satisfaction of the Environmental Protection Authority on advice of the Department of Conservation and Land Management and the City of Wanneroo.
- 10 No transfer of ownership, control or management of the project which would give rise to a need for the replacement of the proponent shall take place until the Minister for the Environment has advised the proponent that approval has been given for the nomination of a replacement proponent. Any request for the exercise of that power of the Minister shall be accompanied by a copy of this statement endorsed with an undertaking by the proposed replacement proponent to carry out the project in accordance with the conditions and procedures set out in the statement.
- 11 If the proponent has not substantially commenced the project within five years of the date of this statement, then the approval to implement the proposal as granted in this statement shall lapse and be void. The Minister for the Environment shall determine any question as to whether the project has been substantially commenced. Any application to extend the period of five years referred to in this condition shall be made before the expiration of that period, to the Minister for the Environment by way of a request for a change in the condition under Section 46 of the Environmental Protection Act. (On expiration of the five year period, further consideration of the proposal can only occur following a new referral to the Environmental Protection Authority).

  
Bob Pearce, MLA  
MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

- 7 JUN 1991

**LANDFILL, WASTE DISPOSAL SITE, RESERVE 25252, WANNEROO ROAD,  
NOWERGUP.**

We, HA & K M Athorn hereby make the following commitments:

## **1.0 Groundwater**

- 1.1 We undertake to install a multiport monitoring bore prior to commencement of filling, to the satisfaction of Geological Survey and at a location agreed by Geological Survey downstream of the landfill site.

## **2.0 Site operations**

- 2.1 We undertake to erect a fence across access routes into the quarry before permitting any dumping of fill, to the satisfaction of the City of Wanneroo and the Department Conservation and Land Management.
- 2.2 We undertake to remove windblown litter from around the site on a weekly basis, to the satisfaction of the City of Wanneroo and the Department Conservation and Land Management.
- 2.3 We undertake to remove weed growth in the landfill area when requested, to the satisfaction of the City of Wanneroo and the Department Conservation and Land Management.
- 2.4 We undertake to control dust levels on the site to meet the criteria specified in the Dust Control Guidelines, to the satisfaction of the City of Wanneroo.
- 2.5 We undertake to implement vermin control measures within the quarry area as considered necessary, to the satisfaction of the City of Wanneroo and the Department Conservation and Land Management.
- 2.6 We undertake to operate the site in a manner that ensures that the Noise Abatement (Neighbourhood Annoyance) Regulations 1979 are not breached, to the satisfaction of the City of Wanneroo.

## **3.0 Site rehabilitation**

- 3.1 We undertake to prepare and carry out a plan in liaison with and to the satisfaction of the City of Wanneroo and the Department Conservation and Land Management in regards to site rehabilitation.