



# Resource Recovery Update

**December 2010: EMRC's Resource Recovery Project is aimed at having a fully operational resource recovery solution in place by approximately 2014. This would involve a resource recovery facility and/or a resource recovery park.**

## Environmental approvals process

Following the submission of the proposed project to the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) in June 2010, the EPA advised EMRC in November 2010 that the Minister for Environment has determined the appeals lodged against the level of assessment set by the EPA and has allowed the appeals in part. The Public Environmental Review (PER) level of assessment set by the EPA was found to be appropriate, and the public review period was extended to eight weeks.

EMRC is currently finalising an Environmental Scoping Report, which sets out the details to be included in the PER. This will be

submitted to the EPA for review and the preparation of the PER will then commence, with it expected to be issued for public comment in mid 2011.

EMRC is preparing to undertake baseline monitoring at its Red Hill Waste Management Facility for odour, noise and air quality for input into the PER.

## Community feedback

At the Community Forum held in September 2010, participants were asked to provide feedback on four main topic areas. The following is a summary of some of the general feedback that was received.

Participants would like to see the facility provide economic benefits to the community, such as employment opportunities for local people. It is also important to them that costs to the community are minimised.

Feedback indicated that improved education on waste reduction and source separation, improved traffic management (especially waste trucks), improved communication and engagement, and preservation of neighbouring natural resources were high priorities for the community.

A wide range of environmental benefits were outlined including clean air and water, odour control and prevention of groundwater pollution. Other concerns attendees had included no toxic emissions, preservation of native bushland including flora and fauna, controls for noise and light pollution, monitoring of local air quality and the need to reduce landfill and minimise greenhouse gases.

Forum participants requested that buffer zones, local and aboriginal heritage and the current hills lifestyle all be maintained.

Other comments from attendees included improving the Red Hill Environmental Education Centre and building greater community trust. There was a general focus on the need for improved recycling and reuse to enforce household responsibility.

A diverse range of comments were received on the topic of technology, ranging from concerns over current technology

options; ensuring that new, world class technology was utilised in the facility; use of control mechanisms; monitoring and auditing; and that there are procedures for continuous improvement in place.

## Community Forum Report

A copy of the Community Forum Report, including feedback received on the draft tender evaluation criteria and Community Partnership Agreement, is available from EMRC's website [www.emrc.org.au/latest-update.html](http://www.emrc.org.au/latest-update.html). Alternatively, copies can be requested by contacting EMRC's reception on (08) 9424 2222.

## Community Task Force

The Community Task Force (CTF) has met three times since forming, focusing on the objectives and timelines for the Community Partnership Agreement (CPA), terms of reference for the CTF, communications, community forum feedback and project status updates.

The CTF recently visited the Neerabup Resource Recovery Facility, which processes waste from Mindarie Regional Council's member Councils, and met with the Mindarie Community Engagement Advisory Group to discuss how they developed their own Community Partnership Agreement.

CTF members will use the feedback from a recently held community forum, to develop the CPA and draft tender evaluation criteria.

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Protecting Perth's Eastern Region 

