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SENG War on Waste
Technical Session 3

3 July 2018



WASTE TO
OPPORTUNITY

ENTERPRISE

Overview

- Value of the Resource Recovery and Waste Management Sector
- Queensland Government – Policy Intent
- Design of Queensland's Waste Levy
- Review of the Waste Management Licencing Framework and Regulated Waste Schedule
- China's Ban on Rubbish
- Opportunities and Risks

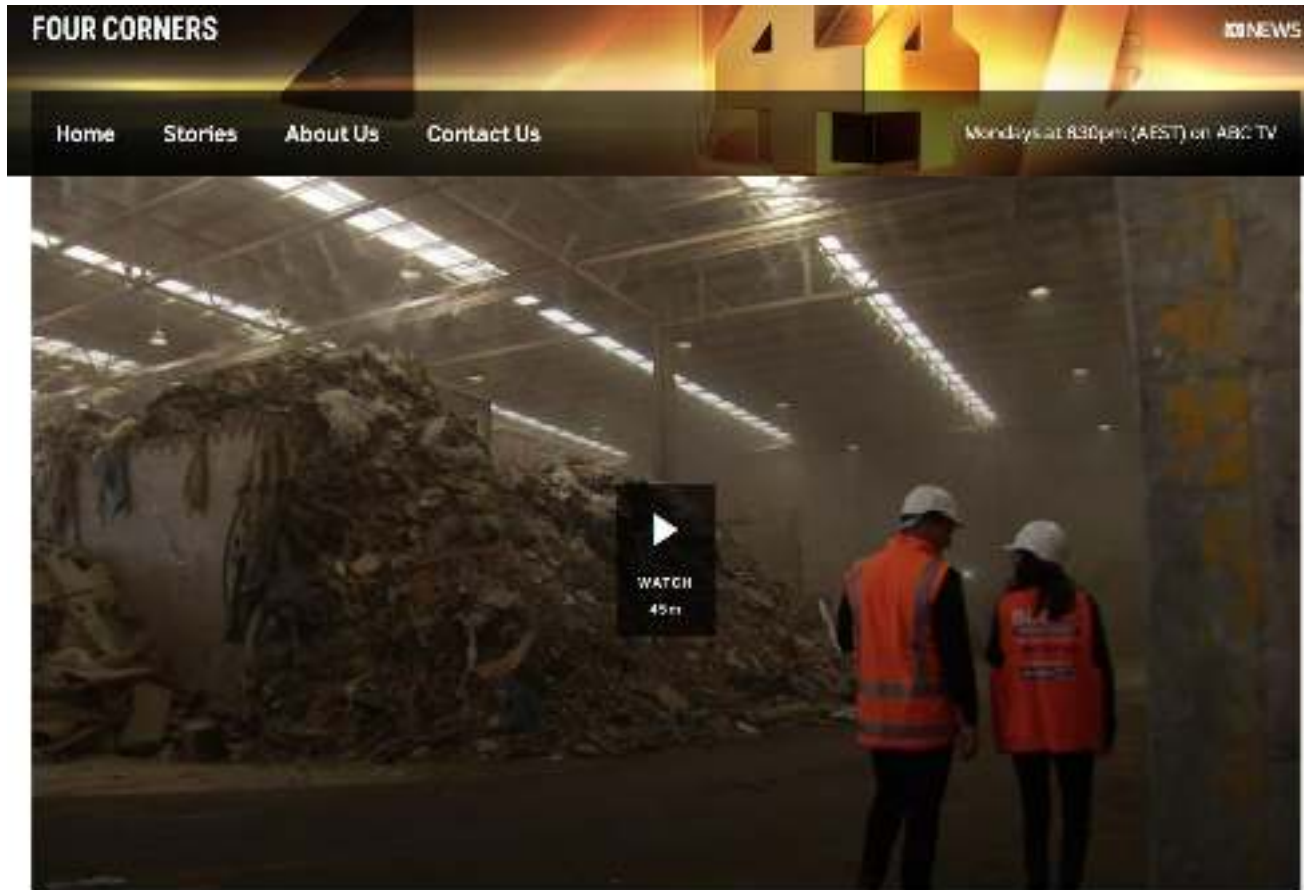


Value of the Waste Management and Resource Recovery Industry

- ~850 businesses (6.5K jobs)
- Collected, processed, recycled and disposed of 9.8 million tonnes of waste
- 4.4 million tonnes of waste (44.5 per cent) was recovered and diverted from landfill disposal
- Pays over a half a billion in wages and salaries
- Has a collective turnover of over \$2.15 billion
- Manages \$1.5 billion in assets including the operation of over 1,500 collection vehicles



How did we get here?



Trashed

Nothing New

- Queensland 'imports' waste from other states
- Recycling costs money – often it is cheaper to dispose of waste to landfill
- The RECYING TRUCK is not a recycling truck
- Markets for collected, recyclable materials are mostly overseas – limited domestic capacity
- Market Failure
- My personal View— we had not been communicating the operational processes and rising issues to our communities

Reviews and Principles

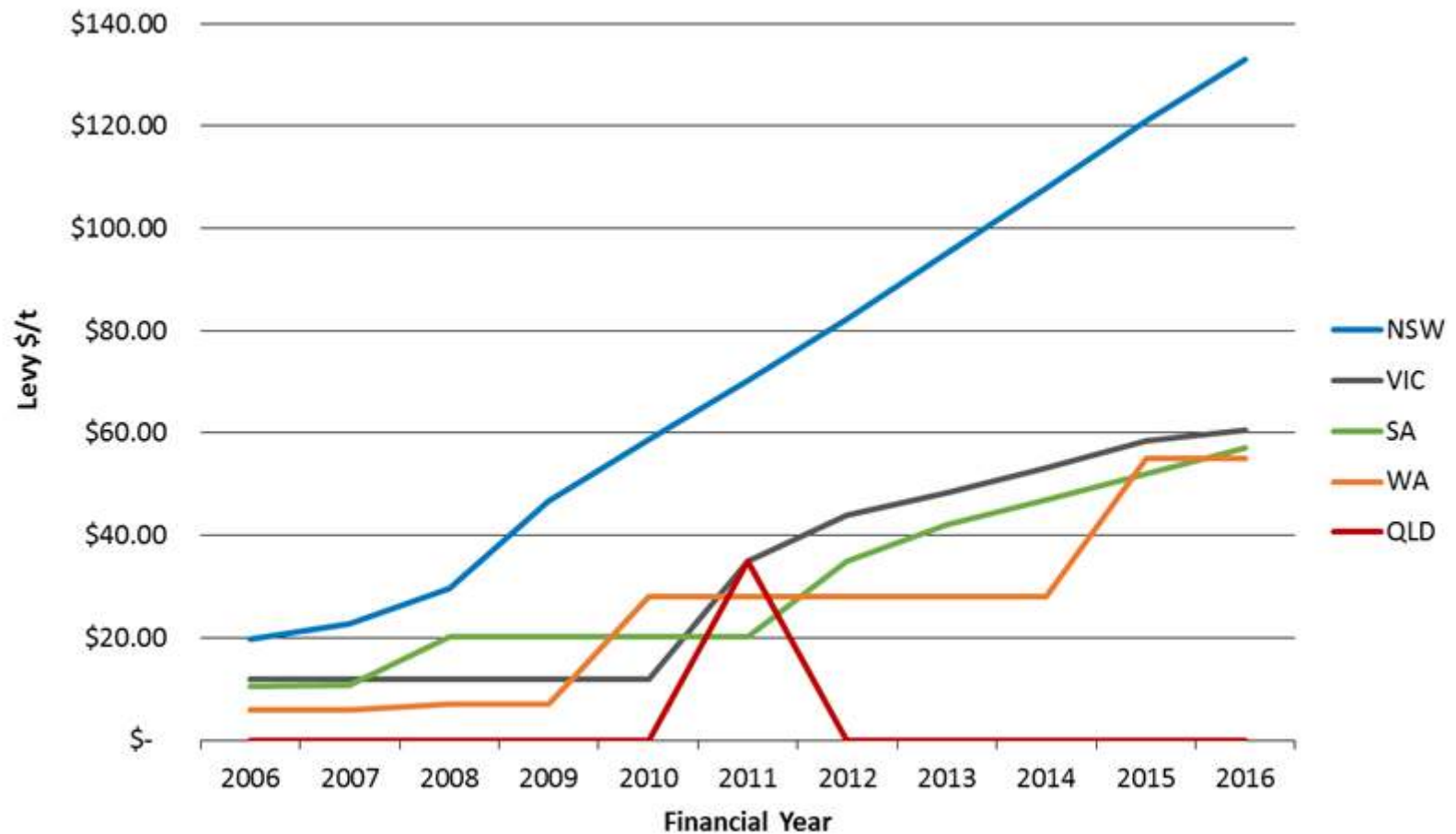
- Honourable Peter Lyon's Review (Qld)
- New Waste Strategy
 - Attract industry investment
 - Create jobs
 - Have no direct impact on households
 - Deliver long-term value to our environment
 - Move us towards a Circular Economy
- Centrepiece of the new strategy – a Levy
- We have a strategy – we had a levy!



Waste Disposal Levy – How Much, Where and When

- \$70.00 tonne general waste (increasing \$5 over four years)
- Regulated waste - Category 1 (\$150) and Category 2 (\$100)
- Starting Q1, 2019
- Councils will receive an annual advance cash payment equal to 105% of their waste disposal to ensure no additional cost to households
- 38 councils in – 39 out
- BUT
- Hypothecation of funds is poor
- Resource Recovery, Recycling and Waste Management Strategy may be released in Sept 2018
- Waste Licence Framework to be finalised
- Regulated Waste Schedule to be finalised
- Exemptions – disaster asbestos, biosecurity

Other Levies - MSW



Issues to Look Out For – Diversion & Misclassification of Wastes



Will Local Governments Outside the Levy Zone Receive Financial Assistance?



Illegal Dumping - Brisbane Forest Park Water Catchment



China

- Major market for recyclables globally
- Operation GreenFence – Feb – Nov 2013
 - Paperwork matched contents and contamination rates
 - Chain of custody
 - Outcome – increased quality standards
- Bans and increased Quality Standards announced 2016 and 2017 – focus on paper and plastics
- In July 2017, inspectors audited 1,792 imported waste processors of which 60% has serious breaches
- Ban 'Polluting Garbage' by 2019
- China is still accepting resources
- Other Asian markets



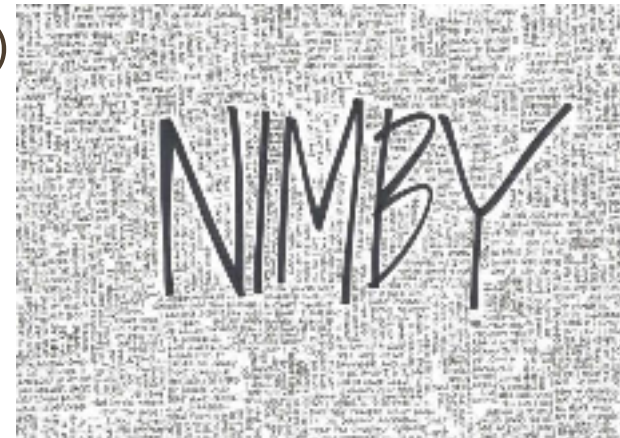
Risks and Opportunities

- Drop of Commodity Prices
- Increased costs to contracts (local government)
- Support packages in VIC and NSW (not QLD)
- Increase MRF quality standards but at a cost
- Stockpiling (Fire)
- Rise of AWT – more jobs than landfill



Alternative Waste Technologies

- Energy from Waste (\$100m in state budget plus LGAQ position)
- Refuse Derived Fuels (domestic use and export)
- Mechanical Biological Treatment (MBT and BMT)
- Anaerobic Digestion?? Going to be over-regulated
- Future of recycling and role in the Circular Economy
- Link to other policy (Biofutures RoadMap)
- Costs – grants, gate fees and contracts
- Planning – lead times
- Licence to Operate





The Public and Planning Concerns



FOR THE SAKE OF OUR CHILDREN: Louise Arnold and her great niece Leandra Glaziers, nine, protest outside the City Hall against proposals for a waste burning incinerator in east Bristol. Campaigners claim it could create a health risk



Flu vaccine for under-tuos could cause 'immunisation overload'

Questions and Contacts



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Senate Review

- Federal Senate report - the full report can be found at:

https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Environment_and_Communications/WasteandRecycling/Report

or just the 18 recommendations at:

https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Environment_and_Communications/WasteandRecycling/Report/bo2



Copies of Environmental Authorities/Licences

- QLD
 - licences (environmental authorities) issued for resource activities (mining and petroleum and gas) and prescribed activities issued under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*
 - <https://environment.ehp.qld.gov.au/env-authorities/>
- NSW
 - Activities licensed by the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) under Schedule 1 of the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997
 - <http://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/prpoeo/licences.htm>

