

Media Release

Environment Protection Authority



GPO Box 2607 Adelaide SA 5001
250 Victoria Square Adelaide SA
T (08) 8204 2000 F (08) 8204 2020
Country areas 1800 623 445

25 November 2016

Construction industry engagement to 'cover-up' waste

The Environment Protection Authority (EPA) has been engaging with the waste and construction industry to seek cooperation and support across its sectors to stamp out trucks with exposed waste during transport.

The EPA has recently uncovered many instances of trucks in the Adelaide CBD and on metropolitan roads with uncovered loads of waste.

EPA Manager Investigations and Tactical Support, Stephen Barry said most of these vehicles had come from development or demolition sites and were travelling to waste depots.

"The EPA has been talking to development site managers, truck drivers and landfill operators seeking cooperation across the board to encourage and remind truck drivers to cover up their waste loads as they are obligated to do, under the *Environment Protection Act*," Mr Barry said.

"Failing to cover a waste load can result in an infringement notice that carries a \$160 fine," he said.

Mr Barry said that all waste leaving a site must be covered to reduce the escape of material and dust from vehicles especially when they are being driven through the city centre or passing by schools, shops and pedestrians.

"It's been disappointing that our officers recently discovered more than 40 trucks travelling through the city and metro areas of Adelaide with uncovered loads of waste," he said.

"This type of waste can create a hazard for other road users and ultimately ends up in our stormwater and local waterways."

The *Operation Cover-Up* taskforce will continue its surveillance work on random days in an effort to encourage and enforce compliance for the protection of public health and the environment.

Incidents of non-compliance for transporting demolition waste can be reported to the EPA hotline on (08) 8204 2004.



Most truck drivers cover their building waste but others like this one on the right, could face a fine

For further information please contact Chris Metevelis: 0439 137 641

Environment Protection Authority