

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

26 June 2015

ARR fined over EPA licence contraventions

The operator of a waste and recycling depot at Dry Creek has been fined \$25,000 for the improper storage of low-level contaminated waste from the Adelaide Oval redevelopment.

The civil penalty against Adelaide Resource Recovery (ARR) was delivered by Judge Costello in the Environment Resources and Development (ERD) Court today.

The EPA had identified three breaches of ARR licence conditions that occurred between 18 October 2012 and 8 August 2013.

This involved three corresponding occasions when low-level contaminated waste soil had been stored in the open at the Dry Creek site, when it should have been placed under cover.

Judge Costello said that 39,000 tonnes of soil had been removed from the Adelaide Oval and deposited in three 'discrete' areas at the ARR facility at Dry Creek, with only 500 tonnes of it being stored in a shed, as required under its licence conditions.

He said that the conscious decision by ARR to breach its licence had the potential to put the protection of the environment and the general public at risk.

Judge Costello imposed a single civil penalty of \$25,000 for the three contraventions of the licence.

EPA Executive Director of Operations Andrew Wood, said the penalty reflected the serious nature of ignoring licence conditions and putting the environment and people at risk.

"The judge clearly indicated in his judgement that this penalty aimed to deter other licence holders who may consider embarking on a similar course of conduct," Mr Wood said.

A civil penalty is a voluntary system that was legislated in 2005 allowing the EPA to negotiate a penalty directly with a person with whom the EPA is satisfied has committed an offence or seek a court imposed penalty under the *Environment Protection Act 1993*.

For further information please contact Chris Metevelis: 0439 137 641