

Hon Ian Hunter MLC

Minister for Sustainability, Environment and Conservation

Saturday, 1 July 2017

Asbestos waste levy removed to promote safe waste management, recycling

There will no longer be a levy on the disposal of packaged asbestos waste as of 1 July; part of reforms to improve safe waste management and promote recycling.

In the 2016-17 State Budget, the solid waste levy applying to the disposal of packaged asbestos waste was initially reduced by half from 1 September 2016 to \$31 per tonne for metropolitan asbestos waste and \$15.50 for non-metropolitan asbestos waste.

The waste levy has been removed to encourage people to dispose of asbestos waste safely at an approved depot or landfill. The individual facility operator's fee will still apply.

Background

South Australian residents who have asbestos to dispose of should first contact their local transfer or waste depot for advice on specific disposal requirements.

Information on the safe handling, management and disposal of asbestos is available on the EPA Guideline, [Wastes Sites Containing Asbestos – removal, transport and disposal](#) or at the [asbestos](#) website.

There are already significant penalties in place for the illegal dumping of waste: individuals face fines of up to \$120,000 and up to two years' imprisonment, and corporations face fines of up to \$250,000.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Sustainability, Environment and Conservation Ian Hunter

Asbestos cannot be safely recycled or burned and we do not want to see this hazardous material being presented at recycling centres or illegally dumped.

The State Government is providing this incentive to ensure this doesn't happen.

There is no alternative to landfilling for the safe disposal of asbestos.

It is important we continue to educate the community on the potential impact of asbestos on people's health and on the environment.

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