

National Integrated Creative Solutions

ABN 54 877 348 873

Aim to Excel in all Aspects of Business



Appendix N

Independent Audit Report – Australian Workplace Management

Mr. Chris Liney
Manager
State Waste Services

chris@statewaste.com.au

STATE WASTE SERVICES PTY LTD – 9 KENOMA PLACE, ARNDELL PARK SSD 6761 - INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT

This report has been prepared for State Waste Services Pty Ltd (SWS) and the Department of Planning and Environment (Department), in relation to the "Request for Extension to Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements Expansion of Clinical and Quarantine Waste Management Facility (SSD 6761) at 9 Kenoma Place, Arndell Park"

THE PROPONENT

The proponent is State Waste Services (NSW) Pty Ltd (SWS) with an ABN 90 122 623 170. Based on an ASIC search the Company was established in 2006. SWS supply products and services to meet the strictest infection control standards in the handling, treatment and disposal of clinical waste. SWS clinical waste bins and sharps collectors meet relevant standards, and SWS clinical waste treatment facility, including its processes, is approved by NSW Health and the Environment Protection Authority.

SWS supply clean, fully lined (double bagged) clinical waste bins that are collected on a tailored schedule and transported to its licenced waste treatment facility. Waste is then treated using state of the art steam sterilisation technology before being shredded and disposed of to landfill in an inert state. SWS focus is on infection control at every stage during the process, protecting the integrity of its clients' accreditation commitments.

BACKGROUND AND AUDIT REQUIREMENTS

SWS has requested an extension to the previously issued Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements to ensure that all comments and additional assessments requested by the Department are addressed. The extension was granted by the Department on 16 January 2018 with the inclusion of three (3) additional requests.

In response to correspondence regarding the above from Kelly McNicol, A/Director Industry Assessments, NSW Government Planning and Environment of 16.01.2018 and at the request of Mr. Chris Linley, General Manager of SWS, the operators of the Clinical and Quarantine Waste Management Facility at 9 Kenoma Place, Arndell Park. I have been asked to provide an independent report on one of three (3) requests from the Department; specifically, to provide; "results of an independent audit of the operation of the existing facility against the conditions of all Development Consents and all Environmental Protection Licences in force in respect of the existing facility to ascertain the baseline of the site".

DOCUMENTS REFERENCED IN THE AUDIT

This 'Scope of Work' necessitated review of all relevant conditions and obligations in relation to the requirements mentioned above within the Environment Protection Licence 20233; issued 03.09.2013 and the Blacktown City Council Development Application, Determination Number 11-1642 23.04.2012 and 12-1124 13.09.2012. We understand that 12-1124 was not acted upon by the applicant. We are aware of an Environment Protection Licence No 12609 issued on 27.11.2016 held by State Waste Services, relating only to the transport of clinical waste.

SITE DESCRIPTION

The subject site is located within an existing industrial area at Lot 14, DP 786328, H/N 9 Kenoma Place, Arndell Park. The site is surrounded by other industrial and commercial activities, such as metals sales, motor vehicle repairs, forklift hires & repairs and general storage operations. The subject site is zoned IN1 General Industrial pursuant to Blacktown Local Environmental Plan (BLEP) 2015.

The site has an area of approximately 1,492 m², having a road frontage of 25.5m to the cul-de-sac head of Kenoma Place and a depth of 38m. The site enjoys vehicular access to the surrounding well serviced local road network, with access to the regional road network of the Great Western Highway, M4 and M7 via Doonside Road and Eastern Road.

The existing industrial premises have a floor area of approximately 570 m² and include 2 offices and a conference room, two small kitchens and staff amenities. In the front building elevation, there are two roller shutter door openings, which will allow for direct loading and unloading access to the internal ground floor area.

ACTIVITIES

SWS is currently licensed to process 650 tonnes per annum, however the application to the Department sought an increase to 3,000 tonnes per annum. The existing autoclave facility is underutilised and as such, the proposed increase can be accommodated on the site through expanded hours of operation and without any physical works required. No additional autoclave is required to service the proposed capacity.

Autoclaving involves the heating of infectious waste by steam under pressure. The autoclave process destroys microbial fauna and flora through the saturation of heat and moisture that renders the proteins in the microbes non-viable. Autoclaving is considered a more energy efficient and cost effective chemical treatment system, and its operations are preferred over other systems because of the inherent safety of the process.

The normal operations include the receiving of waste materials (medical waste) inside double bagged/lined bins, weighing the bins, emptying the bins into the processing bins which are lined with a special heavy-duty plastic liner to ensure that the materials are fully sealed again during the treatment inside the autoclave. All bagged waste materials remain as they are inside the double bags until they are inside the autoclave. None of the

waste material is left in the open at any stage of the process. The processing bins are then wheeled into the autoclave which is locked and the treatment process commences. The treatment process takes approximately one hour to complete to ensure compliance with the NSW Department of Health and the NSW Environment Protection Authority's requirements. The temperature in the autoclave will rise to approximately 140 degrees Celsius to ensure that the processed waste materials are subjected to complete destruction of all potentially infectious materials and rendered safe for disposal as General Solid Waste. The processed materials are then placed in the shredder to be shredded and then the shredded materials are placed in the final processed materials bin. This bin is taken on a weekly basis to a lawfully licensed facility which is licensed to accept this type of waste (General Solid Waste).

METHODOLOGY

The methodology used in this case included the following steps:

- ❖ Conducts a preliminary meeting with SWS management
- ❖ Conduct a preliminary meeting with the environmental consultant
- ❖ Conduct a site inspection
- ❖ Collate all relevant documents including Development Consents, Environment Protection Licences, operational procedures, data collections, records keeping, incoming and outgoing waste data, etc
- ❖ Review all relevant documents
- ❖ Review all raw data collected for the most recent three (3) months
- ❖ Review comprehensively a randomly selected sample
- ❖ Determine baseline data including non-compliances
- ❖ Conduct a final closing meeting with SWS and environmental consultant
- ❖ Prepare this report including findings and recommendation

At the initial interview the request of the Planning and Environment was discussed and a method of reviewing records of collection, processing and removal of waste was established.

It was evident that the Management Facility had maintained input, production and output data.

As a result of various visits, examination of records, tracking and tracing of source documents and documents from outside providers that provides services to the facility, findings are as follows.

- A sample was taken of 20% of the Facilities performance over the recent three months. This period covered June, July and August 2018.
- Extensive reconciliations were performed covering incoming waste, compared with outgoing waste. Receival production and disposal data was reconciled with the following variations:
 - June – .06%
 - July – 1.68%
 - August – .04%

The sample period is considered to be the high point of the annual clinical waste producing period.

FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Based upon the data presented and reviewed it is evident that State Waste Services are operating within the current limit of 650 tonnes per year, based upon the sample reviewed.

In relation to bins, the daily input was within the limit specified within the conditions of DA-1642.

Upon examination of input weights, production activity and records from Suez and Dial a Dump Industries and performing a reconciliation of monthly activity, including the consideration of month end production carry over, **it is my opinion that the data recorded and presented to me accurately reflects the current operational activities of State Waste Services and establishes the baseline of the facility.**

Thank you and Regards,



Neil Laidler
Principal Consultant