

16th March 2022

David Schwebel
Planning Officer, Industry Assessments
Department of Planning and Environment
4 Paramatta Square
12 Darcy Street
Parramatta
NSW 215

Dear David

Extended Operating Hours for Lucas Heights Landfill, Little Forrest Road, Menai – SSD 6835

As you are aware the two main landfills which accept putrescible waste from Sydney are Cleanaway's facility at Lucas Heights and Veolia's facility at Woodlawn near Canberra.

Following the recent flooding the rail line between Sydney and Veolia Woodlawn has been badly damaged and is currently out of action. It is expected that the rail line will be fixed later this week however the backlog of waste will take a few weeks to clear. In addition to this we are also expecting to manage some additional waste volumes related to flood clean up work.

These issues have further exacerbated the current issue of effective waste collection in Sydney. In order to support the effort to return waste collection and disposal services to normal as soon as possible Cleanaway respectfully request that Lucas Heights Landfill be permitted to accept waste 24 hours per day on Mondays to Saturdays and between 6am and 5pm on Sundays.

## Summary

Mondays - Open at 2am and stay open until 5pm on Saturdays

Sundays - 6am - 5pm

This would be for a maximum period of four weeks commencing at midnight on Thursday 17th March.

## **Additional Information**

- We confirm that the development will comply with all other operational conditions of the SSD-6835 consent. However, we do expect that this additional waste intake will put pressure on the current annual waste limit of 850,000tpa. A consent modification will be submitted to DPIE in the next few weeks to address this issue.
- We expect the total number of vehicles per day to increase. However, it is likely that many of the trucks associated with the increased hours would arrive at the site outside of peak AM and PM traffic hours and the number of trucks arriving at the site during peak AM and PM traffic hours would decrease.
- The size of the tipping face (area of exposed waste) will not increase however as some of the backlogged waste has been stockpiled or stored in containers for a number of days there is a risk that this waste could be slightly more odorous than the fresh waste the site normally receives on a daily basis. Waste accepted during these extended hours will be placed in Area G which is located on the western side of the landfill providing a very good buffer from any

sensitive receptors. Regular odour monitoring and complaints investigation procedures will be in place.

- Based on the results of regular noise monitoring carried out at the site over several years we
  are confident that the site will be fully compliant with the noise limits specified in Condition
  C54.
- Lighting the site currently operates during the hours of darkness and it is not proposed to
  install any additional lighting as part of this proposal. Therefore, the site will continue to
  comply with Condition C42A.
- Local Stakeholders including the CRG, ANSTO and Sutherland Council will be notified of the new working hours
- Discussions at a high level within the EPA have already taken place and a licence variation has been submitted.

If you could get back to me as a matter of urgency on this request that would be very much appreciated.

Yours sincerely

John Jones

**NSW Landfills Manager** 

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