



08 September 2015

## INCREASE CAPACITY FOR PUTRESCIBLE WASTE AT WETHERILL PARK TRANSFER STATION

# Request for Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements

**Submitted to:**

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SUEZ  
via email: [carol.ng@suez-env.com.au](mailto:carol.ng@suez-env.com.au)

REPORT



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**Report Number.** 147628002\_016\_R\_Rev0

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## RFSEAR - WETHERILL PARK TRANSFER STATION WASTE CAPACITY INCREASE

### ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

|                            |                                                                                                                                          |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>AHD</b>                 | Australian Height Datum                                                                                                                  |
| <b>AUSPLUME</b>            | A computer-based air dispersion model                                                                                                    |
| <b>CBD</b>                 | Central Business District                                                                                                                |
| <b>DOE</b>                 | Commonwealth Department of Environment (formerly Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities or SEWPAC) |
| <b>DP&amp;E</b>            | NSW Department of Planning and Environment (formerly Department of Planning and Infrastructure)                                          |
| <b>EIS</b>                 | Environmental Impact Statement                                                                                                           |
| <b>EPA</b>                 | NSW Environment Protection Authority                                                                                                     |
| <b>EP&amp;A Act</b>        | NSW <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i>                                                                                |
| <b>EP&amp;A Regulation</b> | NSW <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000</i>                                                                         |
| <b>EPBC Act</b>            | Commonwealth <i>Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i>                                                      |
| <b>EPL</b>                 | Environment Protection Licence                                                                                                           |
| <b>ha</b>                  | Hectares                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>kg</b>                  | Kilograms                                                                                                                                |
| <b>km</b>                  | Kilometres                                                                                                                               |
| <b>LEP</b>                 | Local Environmental Plan                                                                                                                 |
| <b>LGA</b>                 | Local Government Area                                                                                                                    |
| <b>m</b>                   | Metres                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>ml</b>                  | Millilitres                                                                                                                              |
| <b>MRF</b>                 | Materials Recycling Facilities                                                                                                           |
| <b>POEO Act</b>            | NSW <i>Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997</i>                                                                             |
| <b>RMS</b>                 | NSW Roads and Maritime Services                                                                                                          |
| <b>SEARs</b>               | Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements                                                                                        |
| <b>SEPP</b>                | State Environmental Planning Policy                                                                                                      |
| <b>SSD</b>                 | State Significant Development                                                                                                            |
| <b>t</b>                   | Tonnes                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>tpa</b>                 | Tonnes per annum                                                                                                                         |
| <b>WARR Act</b>            | NSW <i>Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2001</i>                                                                                |
| <b>WARR Strategy</b>       | Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy 2007                                                                                      |



## RFSEAR - WETHERILL PARK TRANSFER STATION WASTE CAPACITY INCREASE

### Record of Issue

| Company | Client Contact      | Version | Date Issued       | Method of Delivery |
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#### Limitations



## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Purpose of this document

The purpose of the Request for SEARs is to provide sufficient preliminary information to the Department of Planning and Environment (DP&E) and other relevant agencies about the key elements of the Proposal so that project-specific environmental assessment requirements can be formulated by the DP&E for the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in accordance with State Significant Development assessed under Part 4 of the EP&A Act.

The information provided in the Request for SEARs includes applicable planning provisions, the Proposal description, description of the existing environment of the site and preliminary identification of potential environmental issues to be assessed within the EIS.

### 1.2 Proposal Overview

Wetherill Park Resource Recovery Facility is located at 20 Davis Road, Wetherill Park, within the Fairfield Local Government Area (LGA). It consists of a purpose built facility to accept and process waste materials through on-site segregation and the transfer of material for alternative processing or disposal offsite. The facility provides a consolidation point for unsorted material collected from residential or commercial premises and from the public.

Wetherill Park Resource Recovery Facility is one of eleven waste transfer station facilities operated by SUEZ Environnement (SUEZ) in the Sydney metropolitan area. The Wetherill Park facility is strategically located between the Eastern Creek and Kemps Creek landfill sites, providing processing and transfer facilities to support the operation of these sites.

Currently the Wetherill Park Resource Recovery Facility accepts 90 000 tonnes per annum (tpa) of non-putrescible waste and 10,000 tpa of putrescible waste.

Suez is seeking to obtain development consent to increase the licence capacity of Weatherill Park Resource Recovery Facility from the existing 10,000 tpa of general solid waste (putrescible) to 140,000 tpa of general solid waste (putrescible). This would increase the total waste accepted at the site from 100,000 tpa to 230,000 tpa.

The proposal also includes improvements to the existing facility such as installation of walking floor technology in the current surge pit and separation of domestic drop-off arrangements from commercial waste streams to improve accessibility, safety and efficiency of the operations. Further description of the Proposal is provided in Chapter 4.0.

The Proposal would be designed to receive the same amount of general solid waste (non-putrescible) currently accepted at the site and would not propose to change the existing footprint of the transfer station building or the hours of operations.

### 1.3 The Proponent

The Proposal proponent is SUEZ, which owns and operates Wetherill Park Resource Recovery Facility that includes a transfer station and associated waste infrastructure. Wetherill Park Resource Recovery Facility is located on Lot 402, DP 603454, at 20 Davis Road, Wetherill Park (the Site). The Site is 2.049 ha and is located within Fairfield City Council LGA, approximately 29 kilometres west of the Sydney CBD (refer to Figure 1).

SUEZ is a leader in sustainable resource recovery management, owning and operating more than 100 sites, facilities and offices across Australia. This includes Advanced Resource Recovery Technology (ARRT) facilities, organic resource recovery and treatment facilities, material resource recovery facilities, engineered landfills, service and education centres and eleven transfer stations within metropolitan Sydney.

### 1.4 Structure of the Request for SEARs

The Request for SEARS is structured as follows:



- Section 1.0: Introduction
- Section 2.0: Planning Framework
- Section 3.0: Existing Site Description
- Section 4.0: Proposal Description
- Section 6.0: Preliminary Environmental Risk Analysis
- Section 7.0: Conclusion

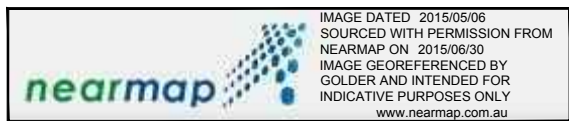
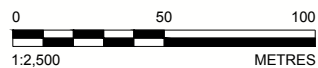
### 1.5 Proposal Objectives

The objectives of the Proposal are to:

- Meet future waste transfer needs of the surrounding area of the site.
- Secure future capacity for putrescible waste transfer and temporary storage to complement other resource recovery management options and landfilling in the western Sydney region.
- Improve the safety and operation of the current facility for existing and future operators and customers.



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CLIENT  
SUEZ

CONSULTANT



|            |            |
|------------|------------|
| YYYY-MM-DD | 2015-09-08 |
| DESIGNED   | DD         |
| PREPARED   | EJJ        |
| REVIEWED   | GRS        |
| APPROVED   | GRS        |

PROJECT  
WETHERILL PARK TRANSFER STATION UPGRADE REVIEW

TITLE  
SITE LOCATION

PROJECT NO.  
147628002

DOCUMENT No  
016 - R

REV.  
0

FIGURE  
F001

IF THIS MEASUREMENT DOES NOT MATCH WHAT IS SHOWN, THE SHEET SIZE HAS BEEN MODIFIED FROM ISO A3 297 mm





## 2.0 PLANNING FRAMEWORK

### 2.1 Commonwealth Legislation

#### 2.1.1 Environment Protection and Biodiversity Act 1999

The *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Act 1999* (EPBC Act) prescribes the Commonwealth's role in environmental assessment, biodiversity conservation and the management of protected areas and species, populations and communities and heritage items. The approval of the Commonwealth Minister for the Environment is required for:

- An action that has, would have, or is likely to have a significant impact on “matters of National Environmental Significance” (NES matters);
- Actions that are likely to have a significant impact on the environment of Commonwealth land;
- Actions taken on Commonwealth land that are likely to have a significant impact on the environment anywhere; and
- Actions by the Commonwealth that are likely to have a significant impact on the environment anywhere.

NES matters include:

- World heritage values of a declared World Heritage property;
- National heritage values of a listed National Heritage Place;
- Wetlands of International Significance (including Ramsar wetland Sites);
- The Commonwealth marine environment;
- Nuclear actions;
- Listed threatened species and ecological communities, and
- Listed migratory species.

The requirement for a Commonwealth approval is assessed through a referral process to the Commonwealth Department of Environment (DOE). If the Commonwealth Minister for DOE determines that a project is likely to have a significant impact the Proposal would become a controlled action and approval of the Commonwealth Minister is required.

The need for a referral is based on two triggers. The first is that it must relate to NES matters. The second is that it must have a significant impact on such matters.

Based upon preliminary analysis a referral will not be made to DOE.

### 2.2 NSW State Legislation

#### 2.2.1 Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979

The EP&A Act (and the associated EP&A Regulation) is the primary legislation for establishment of controls on land use planning, establishing the framework for environmental planning and assessment in NSW.

The objects of the EP&A Act are:

- a) *To encourage:*
  - i) *The proper management, development and conservation of natural and artificial resources, including agricultural land, natural areas, forests, minerals, waters, cities, towns and villages for the purpose of promoting the social and economic welfare of the community and a better environment;*



- ii) *The promotion and co-ordination of the orderly and economic use and development of land;*
  - iii) *The protection, provision and co-ordination of communication and utility services;*
  - iv) *The provision of land for public purposes;*
  - v) *The provision and co-ordination of community services and facilities;*
  - vi) *The protection of the environment, including the protection and conservation of native animals and plants, including threatened species, populations and ecological communities, and their habitats;*
  - vii) *Ecologically sustainable development, and*
  - viii) *The provision and maintenance of affordable housing.*
- b) *to promote the sharing of the responsibility for environmental planning between the different levels of government in the State, and*
- c) *to provide increased opportunity for public involvement and participation in environmental planning and assessment.*

Part 4 of the EP&A Act establishes an assessment and approval regime for development that is declared as State Significant Development (SSD). State Environmental Planning Policy (State and Regional Development) 2011 describes development that is subject to the approval process established under SSD. Of most relevance, Schedule 1 Clause 23(2) of *State Environmental Planning Policy (State and Regional Development) 2011* triggers SSD where facilities handle waste volumes over 100,000 tonnes per annum.

The proposed development would also be considered designated development under Clause 32 (waste management facilities or works) of Schedule 3 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000*, which refers to:

*“(1) Waste management facilities or works that store, treat, purify or dispose of waste or sort, process, recycle, recover, use or reuse material from waste and:*

*(b) that sort, consolidate or temporarily store waste at transfer stations or materials recycling facilities for transfer to another site for final disposal, permanent storage, reprocessing, recycling, use or reuse:*

*(iii) that have an intended handling capacity of more than 30,000 tonnes per year of waste such as glass, plastic, paper, wood, metal, rubber or building demolition material.”*

In accordance with Section 91 of the EP&A Act, the Proposal would also be integrated as it will require a change to the existing Environmental Protection Licence to authorise the carrying out of scheduled development work at the Site (refer to Table 1).

### 2.2.2 Further relevant NSW legislation

In addition to the EP&A Act, NSW legislation relevant to the Proposal and the preparation of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) are listed in Table 1.

**Table 1: Relevant NSW Legislation**

| Act                                                      | Description                                                                                                                                                                        | Note                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|----------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997</i> | The POEO Act relates to pollution management and waste disposal in NSW and establishes requirements for licensing of certain activities that are listed in Schedule 1 of this Act. | The Site currently operates under Environmental Protection Licence (EPL) 4548.<br><br>The Proposal will require the EPL to be amended prior to construction and operation.<br><br>Consultation with the appropriate |



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| Act                                           | Description                                                                            | Note                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|-----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                               |                                                                                        | agency would ensure obligations of the POEO Act are met.                                                                                                                                                    |
| <i>Contaminated Lands Management Act 1997</i> | The <i>Contaminated Lands Management Act 1997</i> regulates contaminated sites in NSW. | If any contaminated sites are found during the course of the Proposal the appropriate authorities would be notified and management of ground contamination would be undertaken in accordance with this act. |

### 2.3 Environmental Planning Instruments

Within the framework of the EP&A Act, Environmental Planning Instrument (EPIs) are required to be addressed as part of State Significant Development assessment, on a Local and State wide basis. It is considered the following EPIs are potentially relevant to the Proposal and would be considered within the EIS.

- State Environmental Planning Policies (SEPP)
  - SEPP (Infrastructure) 2007
  - SEPP 33 Hazardous and Offensive Development
- Local Government legislation
  - *Fairfield Local Environment Plan 2013*

Clause 104 in conjunction with Schedule 3 of the Infrastructure SEPP identifies what is considered to be traffic generating development requiring consultation with RMS. Resource recovery or waste transfer stations of any size or capacity are identified as a traffic generating activity under Column 1 of Schedule 3 and therefore this provision of the SEPP applies. Accordingly, this matter would be addressed during the EIS process.

#### 2.3.1 Permissibility

The site of the Proposal is zoned as IN1 – General Industry under *Fairfield Local Environment Plan 2013* (LEP).

The objectives of this zone are:

- *To provide a wide range of industrial and warehouse land uses.*
- *To encourage employment opportunities.*
- *To minimise any adverse effect of industry on other land uses.*
- *To support and protect industrial land for industrial uses.*
- *To ensure development is not likely to detrimentally affect the viability of any nearby business centre.*

The use of the site as a waste or resource transfer station is a permitted within this zone with consent, by virtue of it not being a prohibited use or a use permissible without consent.

Under the State Environmental Planning Policy (Infrastructure) 2007, Zone IN1 General Industrial is a prescribed zone in accordance with Clause 120. This clause identifies a resource recovery facility as follows:

**resource recovery facility** means a facility for the recovery of resources from waste, including such works or activities as separating and sorting, processing or treating the waste, composting, temporary storage, transfer or sale of recovered resources, energy generation from waste gases and water treatment, but not including re-manufacture of material or goods or disposal of the material by landfill or incineration.





## RFSEAR - WETHERILL PARK TRANSFER STATION WASTE CAPACITY INCREASE

In addition, a resource recovery facility is defined as a type of waste or resource management facility under the following definition:

**waste or resource management facility** means a waste or resource transfer station, a resource recovery facility or a waste disposal facility.

Under Clause 121 of the Infrastructure SEPP:

- (1) *Development for the purpose of waste or resource management facilities, other than development referred to in subclause (2), may be carried out by any person with consent on land in a prescribed zone.*

The Proposal is therefore, in accordance with Clause 121 of the Infrastructure SEPP, permissible with consent.



### 3.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

#### 3.1 Site Location and Description

Wetherill Park Resource Recovery Facility is located at 20 Davis Road, Wetherill Park. The Site is 2.049 ha and is located within Fairfield City Council LGA, approximately 29 kilometres west of the Sydney CBD (refer to Figure 1).

The Site is located within an industrial estate with the site and the land to the east and south zoned IN1 General Industry. Prospect Reservoir is located approximately 880 metres north of the site. Based upon previous assessment and information within relevant legislative instruments including *Fairfield Local Environment Plan 2013*, the Site does not have existing terrestrial biodiversity constraints, nor does it have built heritage constraints, nor is it located within bushfire prone land.

The Site currently accepts waste from both commercial and domestic site users, with the waste streams including municipal solid waste (putrescible), commercial & industrial waste, construction & demolition waste and greenwaste. Asbestos is also accepted at a controlled exterior location to the resource recovery facility building.

The existing site layout has commercial and private vehicles entering the resource recovery building from the north. A 1.5 m deep surge pit splits the interior of the building into two main processing areas. Domestic users enter via a western doorway and commercial vehicles enter via an eastern doorway, with both entrances orientated to face north. Some recyclables are removed and sorted by site plant, with the residual waste being pushed along the surge pit by a bulldozer, through a waste pit, into transfer trucks parked at a lower loading level. The traffic flow through the site is one-way with both private and commercial vehicles exiting the existing the building at the southwest corner. Collection of waste is via a surge pit from which waste is discharged into containers for transportation.

The resource recovery building is the predominant structure on the Site and includes a workshop and administration facilities. In addition to this building, the Site also contains a weighbridge, car parking for staff and a material recovery facility.

The Site also has an easement to the north of the resource recovery building for overhead electrical cables.

An indicative existing site layout is provided in Figure 2.

The Site is owned by the Proponent and consists of:

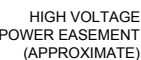
- Lot 402, DP 603454

#### 3.2 Site History

The Site has been in operation since 1989 and has been subject to development application approvals as identified in Table 2.

**Table 2: Relevant NSW Legislation**

| DA Number and Approval                  | Description of Development                      |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| 2192/2003 Approved 23rd March 2004      | Timber stockpile and partially enclosed awning  |
| 1557/06 approved 27th of September 2007 | Acceptance and transfer of asbestos material    |
| 426.1/2009 approved 23rd December 2009  | Acceptance of putrescible and other waste types |
| 1028.1/2010 approved 2nd December 2010  | Sale of compost                                 |



MATERIAL RECOVERY FACILITY

WASTE TRANSFER STATION  
RL 41.00

PII

— LOADING CHUTE

— DOWN RAMP FOR  
COLLECTOR TRUCKS

BOUNDARY :

DAVIS ROAD

## LEGEND



COLLECTOR TRUCK

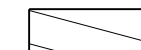


COMMERCIAL VEHICLE



DOMESTIC VEHICLE

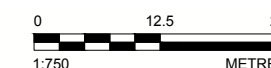
--- HIGH VOLTAGE POWER EASEMENT



EXISTING TRANSFER STATION FOOTPRINT

NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

**DRAFT**



CONSULTANT



YYYY-MM-DD 2015-09-08

PREPARED EJ

DESIGN DD

REVIEW GR

APPROVED

TITLE  
**CURRENT SITE LAYOUT**

PROJECT No.  
147628002

DOCUMENT No  
016 - R

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0FIGURE  
E002





### 4.0 PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION

The Proposal seeks to obtain development consent to increase the licence capacity of Weatherill Park Resource Recovery Facility from the existing 10,000 tpa of general solid waste (putrescible) to 140,000 tpa of general solid waste (putrescible). This would increase the total amount of waste accepted at the Wetherill Park Resource Recovery Facility by 130,000 tpa to total of 230,000 tpa.

The proposal also includes improvements and to and reconfiguration of the existing facility. The key features of the Proposal include:

- Extension of the width of the existing surge pit by 3 metres and placement of a divider within the pit. This pit would allow separation of dry (non-putrescible) solid waste and putrescible solid waste. Associated internal amendments including new load out chutes at the southern end of the surge pit are proposed to accommodate this upgrade.
- Installation of a walking floor on the eastern side of the pit within the resource recovery facility for transport of the putrescible solid waste.
- Separation of dry commercial and industrial waste, general solid waste (putrescible) and domestic drop-offs to improve accessibility, safety and operation of the domestic waste facility. This involves reconfiguration of existing domestic and commercial waste vehicle access with the relocation of domestic dropoffs to outside the existing building area.
- Provision of new roof support to facilitate the removal of an internal wall to permit the establishment of the domestic waste drop-off area.
- Establishment of a new exit to the existing building on site.
- Establishment new workshop and storage in the east of the site.
- Establishment of truck parking and stand down areas in the east of the site.

No expansion of the transfer station building footprint is proposed. The proposed relocated domestic drop off area (outside the existing building) would be located under an existing roofed area.

In addition, it is proposed to:

- Retain the cardboard bin and packer on site.
- Revise operational procedures to allow for an increase in capacity.
- Retain existing recyclables separation activities to continue resource recovery and Ecologically Sustainable Development goals.

No change is proposed to:

- Site boundary
- The weighbridge or the Site to the north of existing resource recovery building
- Egress / ingress to and from site by maintaining existing site entrance
- Operating hours
- Acceptance / handling of asbestos

The Proposal includes the continuation and consolidation of existing approvals on the site. If the Proposal is approved, it is proposed that SUEZ would surrender previously granted development consents relating to the Site to ensure the site would operate in accordance with one planning approval.



Figure 3 presents a conceptual layout of the Proposal.

## 5.0 PROPOSAL JUSTIFICATION

### 5.1 Strategic Context

Wetherill Park Resource Recovery Facility currently accepts approximately 100 000 tpa of waste, of which 90 000 tpa is non-putrescible waste and 10,000 tpa putrescible waste..

Eastern Creek landfill is due to cease landfill operations in early to mid 2016 and it is anticipated that up to 130,000 tpa of putrescible waste currently going directly to Eastern Creek may be directed to the Wetherill Park Resource Recovery Facility. As part of a coordinated delivery of resource recovery and waste services in metropolitan Sydney, SUEZ is seeking to obtain development consent to increase the license capacity of Wetherill Park Resource Recovery Facility from the existing 10,000 tpa of putrescible waste to 140,000 tonnes putrescible waste per annum, increasing the total waste accepted at the site from 100,000 tpa to 230,000 tpa.

The Proposal would be designed to enable the facility to continue to receive all existing waste streams currently accepted at the Site and would not propose to change the existing footprint of the facility or significantly alter the external infrastructure on the Site or operational hours.

### 5.2 Alternatives considered

While a number of alternatives have been considered during feasibility and concept design as summarised below. More detailed description of the alternatives will be provided within the EIS documentation

#### ■ DO NOTHING

Eastern Creek Landfill is due to cease landfill operations in early to mid 2016. If the “do nothing” option is adopted the capacity to accept putrescible waste within the area will be reduced and result in waste acceptance issues including the potential requirement for an additional facility within the locality to accept putrescible waste.

#### ■ REMOVING THE ACCEPTANCE OF DOMESTIC WASTE

While the Site currently accepts both domestic and putrescible waste, an alternative situation whereby domestic waste would no longer be accepted at the site was considered. This would enable the facility, in its current configuration, to continue to operate. However, this would have unacceptable implications for the disposal of domestic waste in the region, particularly when the domestic waste drop-off facility at Eastern Creek landfill ceases operation in early to mid 2016.

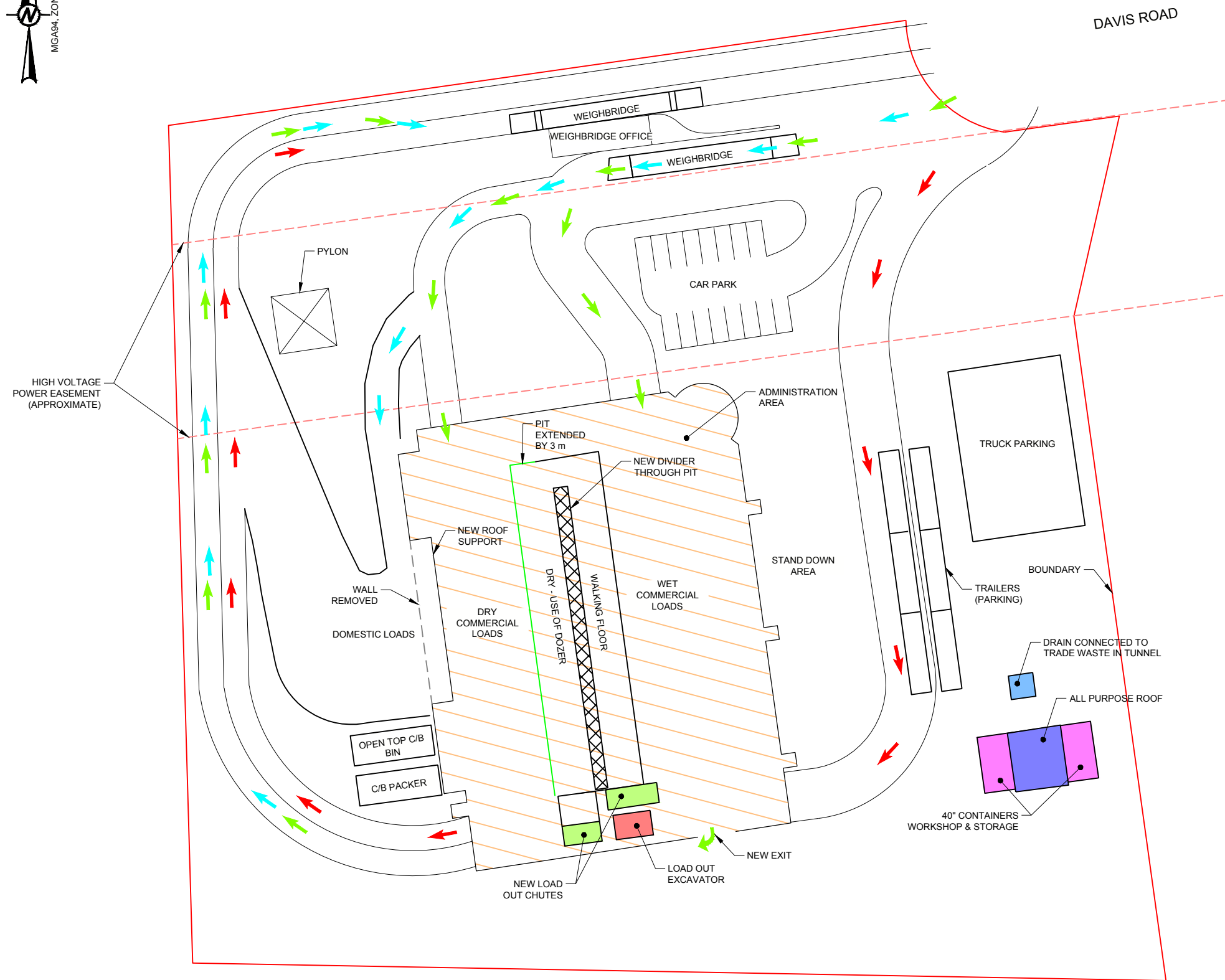
### 5.3 Benefits

Overall, the Proposal would:

- Minimise the regional waste management footprint by developing additional putrescible capacity at an existing facility, rather than through development of an alternative site.
- Achieve linkages and consistency with relevant Waste Strategies associated with National, State and Local waste policies through continual operation of resource recovery operations on site.
- Improve and upgrade existing waste infrastructure to better serve the local region and greater Sydney area.



- LEGEND
- COLLECTOR TRUCK
  - COMMERCIAL VEHICLE
  - DOMESTIC VEHICLE
  - HIGH VOLTAGE POWER EASEMENT



NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION  
**DRAFT**



CLIENT  
SUEZ

PROJECT  
WETHERILL PARK TRANSFER STATION UPGRADE REVIEW

CONSULTANT



|            |            |
|------------|------------|
| YYYY-MM-DD | 2015-09-08 |
| PREPARED   | EJJ        |
| DESIGN     | DD         |
| REVIEW     | GRS        |
| APPROVED   | GRS        |

TITLE  
**PROJECT CONCEPTUAL LAYOUT**

PROJECT No.  
147628002

DOCUMENT No  
016 - R

Rev.  
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FIGURE  
**F003**



## 6.0 PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL RISK ANALYSIS

A preliminary environmental risk analysis has been completed to assist in the identification of key issues for the Proposal based upon likelihood and consequence of potential adverse impacts of the Proposal.

The assessment of risk is based upon knowledge of the Proposal site including previous desktop and intrusive investigations, existing conditions of consent and licences and further identification of environmental constraints and opportunities related to the site and the activity being proposed.

The environmental risk analysis would be further developed and provided as part of the EIS, incorporating further site investigation, SEARs and community and stakeholder liaison to ensure all issues associated with the Proposal are addressed appropriately.

The identified potential key issues and how they would be addressed in the EIS are provided as follows:

### 6.1 Stakeholder Consultation

The Proponent intends to undertake stakeholder and community consultation and adopt consultation processes in accordance with the SEARs in preparation of the EIS. The proponent will endeavour to carry out “adequate and appropriate” consultation as described in the NSW Department of Planning, *Guidelines for Major Project Community Consultation* (2007), prior to, during, and after assessment of the Proposal.

The Proponent is prepared to adequately resource and report on the consultation processes as required by DP&E and the SEARs for the Proposal.

#### 6.1.1 Methodology

The proponent wishes to gain further understanding of the issues that need to be addressed during assessment of the Proposal and has commenced and will continue to liaise with relevant local and State Government authorities and stakeholders, including (but not limited to):

- Department of Planning and Environment;
- Roads and Maritime Services; and
- Fairfield City Council; and
- Neighbouring landowners.

## 6.2 Waste management

Identification of the waste streams received and processed at the Site will be identified.

#### 6.2.1 Methodology

The technical report will identify and discuss the waste management streams relating to the Proposal. This will involve identifying, quantifying and classifying all C&I and putrescible waste received at the Site in addition to how this waste will be processed in accordance with relevant assessment documentation including NSW Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water, *Waste Classification Guidelines* (2009).

## 6.3 Soil and Water

The primary objectives of surface and waste water management for the Wetherill Park Resource Recovery Facility is to ensure appropriate segregation and management of clean, dirty (sediment-laden) surface and leachate such that surface waters leaving the site meet the required discharge quality and flow criteria.

#### 6.3.1 Methodology

Specifically, the proposed methodology for addressing soil and water issues at the site through implementation of the Proposal include:





- Completion of a desktop review of site documentation to clearly identify existing operations and the capacity for future operations of the Site;
- A review of all existing data for the site including existing site issues that may potentially affect the Proposal development;
- A site inspection to further identify potential sites of contamination associated with soil and water and/or assess if contamination exists and the extent of existing contamination of soil and groundwater; and
- Preparation of a specialist report outlining the existing site contaminants, the likely affect the Proposal would have upon the site and recommendations for works to be completed to mitigate the effects of contamination.

### 6.4 Air Quality and Odour

The Proposal proposes an increase in the amount of putrescible waste accepted at the site and there may be potential impacts upon air quality and odours associated with this.

#### 6.4.1 Methodology

The Air Quality assessment will be carried out in accordance with the NSW EPA's "Approved methods for the modelling and assessment of air pollutants in NSW". Any previous assessments done for the facility will be reviewed, as well as the Proposal description for the Proposal, to determine all existing and proposed sources of odour and other air pollutants. Emission rates will then be calculated based on the type and size of sources, using a combination of previous emissions modelled at the site and an extensive database available to Pacific Environment (engaged by Golder Associates as subconsultant). These emission rates will form the basis of the emissions inventories compiled for modelling.

Meteorological data and emissions data will be used as inputs for the dispersion model to predict ground level concentrations at the nearest receptors and across the modelling domain. These results will be assessed against the relevant assessment criteria to determine if any exceedances are likely. All methodologies, assumptions and results will be presented in a technical report suitable for submission to the relevant government departments.

### 6.5 Traffic and Transport

The Proposal seeks to intensify the use of the site through an increase in the amount of putrescible waste accepted on the site from 10,000 to 140,000 tpa. Therefore, it is anticipated that some increase in traffic will be associated with the Proposal.

#### 6.5.1 Methodology

A Traffic and Transport Impact assessment will be completed for the Proposal and would provide for the predictions of traffic volumes likely to be generated during construction and operation, assessment of the impact of traffic generated by the increase in capacity on the safety, capacity and efficiency of the surrounding road network, modelling of key intersections, assessment of existing and proposed truck routes, assessment of the need for road upgrades or improvement works, and assessment of parking, access and internal vehicle circulation.

The technical report completed as part of the EIS would include site layout and design that considers relevant standards in consultation with relevant authorities/ stakeholders. Mitigation measures would also be identified.

### 6.6 Noise and Vibration

The Proposal is seeking to predominantly make internal amendments to an existing resource recovery facility. However, traffic numbers will increase due to intensification of operation. Domestic waste drop off proposed to occur external to the existing building has the potential to cause noise.



### 6.6.1 Methodology

A Noise and Vibration assessment will be completed for the Proposal and would provide for the predictions of noise for the increased traffic volumes likely to be generated during operation, in addition to noise associated with operations.

The technical report completed as part of the EIS would include measuring the existing background noise levels and assessing the Proposal against the relevant noise criteria for the site in consultation with relevant authorities/ stakeholders.

### 6.7 Hazards

The site is not identified as being in a bushfire prone area. However, further hazard identification and assessment of potential impacts of the Proposal would be provided in the EIS in accordance with SEPP 33. Hazards typically associated with waste transfer including:

- Health (biological) hazards;
- Occupational Health and Safety hazards;
- Operational hazards; and
- Hazards during construction works.

#### 6.7.1 Methodology

A Hazard and Risk Assessment shall be prepared for the Proposal, in accordance with the provisions of *State Environmental Planning Policy No. 33 — Hazardous and Offensive Development* (SEPP 33). SEPP 33 specifies that a preliminary hazard analysis (PHA) must be prepared for development applications for 'potentially hazardous industry'. The PHA will be undertaken in line with DP&E's SEPP 33 Guidelines, and Hazardous Industry Advisory Papers.

### 6.8 Socio-Economic Affects

The Wetherill Park Resource Recovery Facility provides for both commercial and domestic waste recovery. The Proposal includes amendments to maintain and improve the domestic waste collection operations that service existing residents and small businesses in the area.

The expansion in the amount of putrescible waste that can be accommodated at the facility will reduce the need for the development of an additional facility to accept anticipated future waste streams.

#### 6.8.1 Methodology

A socio-economic assessment will be undertaken in accordance with relevant policy documents as directed by the SEARs for the Proposal. This may include assessment requirements in the identification and analysis of potential construction and operational impacts of the Proposal upon surrounding residences and businesses.

### 6.9 Visual Amenity

The Proposal proposed primarily internal amendments to an existing building, with minor amendments to internal site road layout. The visual impacts will be minimal.

#### 6.9.1 Methodology

A desktop study will be completed to assess the visual impact of the Proposal upon site receptors and vistas.

### 6.10 Cumulative Impacts

The Proposal proposes an intensification of an existing use, within an existing industrial area. Consideration of the cumulative impact of this intensification on existing surrounding uses would be provided in the EIS.



### **6.10.1 Methodology**

A cumulative impact assessment will be undertaken to assess impacts of the Proposal along with neighbouring Proposals in the surrounding environment.

## **6.11 Other considerations**

### **6.11.1 Cultural Heritage (Indigenous and Non-indigenous)**

The site is not identified as being the location of, or in the vicinity of, any items of heritage significance, and the Proposal involves primarily internal amendments to an existing building on a well-developed site within an industrial area. Therefore, it is not proposed to undertake a heritage assessment of the site, beyond that determined through a review of previous development applications on the Site and relevant State and local heritage registers.

### **6.11.2 Terrestrial Flora and Fauna**

The Proposal is seeking to make internal amendments to an existing resource recovery facility and therefore it is not considered that significant additional impacts will occur in terms of flora and fauna. No listed flora and fauna has been identified on the Site or within its vicinity. Therefore, it is not proposed to undertake a Flora and Fauna assessment of the site, beyond that determined through a review of previous development applications on the Site and relevant State and local flora and fauna registers.



### 7.0 CONCLUSION

The Proposal is associated with the increase in the total amount of waste accepted at the Wetherill Park Resource Recovery Facility by 130,000 tonnes per annum to 230,000 tonnes per annum and associated works. The key features of the Proposal include:

- Extension of the existing pit by 3 metres and placement of a divider within pit. A walking floor is proposed to be inserted on the eastern side of the pit within the resource recovery facility and associated internal amendments including new load out chutes to accommodate this.
- Separation of dry commercial, putrescible and domestic drop-off areas and reconfiguration of existing domestic and commercial waste vehicle access. This includes moving domestic waste to outside of the existing facility and new roof support to facilitate the removal of an internal wall to permit the domestic waste stream.
- A new exit to the existing facility on site.
- New workshop and storage in the east of the site.
- Truck parking and stand down areas in the east of the site.

No expansion of the building footprint is proposed for the Proposal, with the exception of an additional set down and storage area outside the existing building to allow for the separation of domestic and commercial customers. In addition the Proposal proposes to:

- Retain cardboard bin and packer on site.
- Realignment and separation of domestic drop-off arrangements from commercial waste streams to improve accessibility, safety and operation of the domestic waste facility.
- Revised operational procedures to allow for an increase in capacity.
- Improvements to the internal organisation of the facility to provide disposal options for wastes to facilitate resource recovery and ESD. As such the Proposal has linkages and consistency with relevant Waste Strategies associated with National, State and Local waste policy.
- Minimising the regional waste management footprint by developing additional putrescible capacity at an existing facility, rather than through development of an alternative site.
- The Proposal proposes no change to:
  - the weighbridge or the Site to the north of existing resource recovery building;
  - egress/ingress to and from site;
  - operating hours;
  - equipment
  - acceptance/handling of asbestos;

The Proposal includes the continuation and consolidation of existing approvals on the site. If the Proposal is approved, it is proposed that SUEZ would surrender previously granted development consents relating to the Site to ensure the site would operate in accordance with one planning approval.

This document presents a Proposal description and a summary of the potential environmental impacts in order to inform the assessment process of the Proposal. It is considered that the Request for SEARs has addressed statutory and further information required by the DP&E to issue the SEARs.

SUEZ seeks SEARs for the EIS in accordance with State Significant Development, Part 4 of the EP&A Act.





## Report Signature Page

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# **APPENDIX A**

## **Limitations**



## IMPORTANT INFORMATION RELATING TO THIS REPORT

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