

Dr Judy Edwards
Minister For Environmental Protection
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12th January 2005

RE: RED HILL WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITY

I am writing in regard to ongoing Environmental Protection Issues relating to the Red Hill Waste Management Facility. I have attempted to bring these matters to the attention of the Department for Environment however have found the response to be inadequate and still greatly concerning (please see attached initial correspondence and response).

It is clear that the Program Managers response is strictly an attempt to clarify what the facility *should be doing, or ensuring*, however, the facts remain that the Environmental Protection Act 1986 licence provisions (for the Red Hill facility) may or may not be occurring, however the environmental impacts outlined in the initial correspondence still remain unchanged. This is particularly pertinent to that of wind blown litter/rubbish pollution, odour, dust and the visible appearance of the site from the south looking north. The response from the manager acknowledges all this plus more as environmental impacts and issues and talks about the bandaids that have been applied and putting, old bigger bandaids back on the wounds again, however this gives little reassurance for the quality assurance that will occur to ensure these impacts are not further experienced.

I would encourage an inspection on a windy day when the easterly breezes (or sea breeze) is gusting to appreciate how the litter swirls upward over the fences – This is more than a fencing issue, it is due to the poor location of the facility on the top of the escarpment with a high susceptibility to wind gusts. With plans for the site (next landfill cell) to extend east towards further residential lots it is simply illogical to think that the impact will not increase. The regular explosive blasting activities should not occur so close to residential areas and will most certainly create huge cracks in newly established homes, not to mention possible structural issues. This will no doubt be required in the development of future cells that I am led to believe are planned for the very near future.

As recommended in our initial correspondence, the only reasonable outcome in the interests of the environment (including one of Perth's original and premier National Parks) and the mass of residences both established and planned for the future is for the activities of the Red Hill Landfill Facility to decrease and for it to be relocated in a less environmentally impacting area than present.

Thankyou for your attention in addressing these concerning matters and if we can add any further clarification, please do not hesitate to call. I was going to speak to contacts at 6PR Radio Perth however felt this process to be a better solution first.