



Media Statement
Tuesday, 28 August 2012

Controlled waste facility at the Copping landfill site

Southern Waste Solutions has held a site visit and media briefing at its Copping landfill facility today, regarding its proposal to construct a controlled waste disposal cell at the site.

Southern Waste Solutions CEO Christine Bell said should the proposal proceed, waste accepted at the site would undergo prior-approval by the environmental regulator to ensure it was suitable and compatible for disposal at the facility.

“Waste at the site will have elevated concentrations of certain metals and elements that occur in our natural environment,” Ms Bell said.

“The cell will be engineered to world’s best practice and waste will be stored and treated in a way that ensures it cannot cause harm to the environment through emissions to air, soil or water contamination.”

Ms Bell said Tasmania was currently the only state in Australia without such a facility.

“This waste is not coming from overseas or interstate, but rather from stockpiles around Tasmania, being regularly produced by our industries and businesses,” Ms Bell said.

“There is a similar facility within 30km of Melbourne’s CBD and the Copping site is 52km from Hobart and approximately 2.5km from the nearest house.”

Ms Bell said the site would not be taking any liquids, oils or solvents.

“Nyrstar’s current plans are to ship its jarosite to South Australia for reprocessing and it will not be coming back to Tasmania,” she said.

Gate fees for the Copping site have not yet been set, as they depend on final construction, close out and rehabilitation costs, but they are estimated to be in excess of \$100 per tonne.

Southern Waste Solutions is a joint authority owned by Clarence, Kingborough, Sorell and Tasman Councils and has been operating since the Copping site was constructed more than 10 years ago.

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