

20th February 2009

Organic study to benefit manufacturing

There will be future cost penalties for organic materials being deposited in landfill, according to a local waste management group. A new study into organic waste is being conducted, to position the Barwon region for the post 2010 carbon trading future.

Organic materials in landfill create harmful methane gases as they decompose and methane is 21 times more potent as a greenhouse gas than CO₂.

In recognition of this, the Barwon Regional Waste Management Group has commenced a study of organic waste derived from the industry and manufacturing sector of the Barwon Region.

“The purpose of the study is to identify the potential organic materials that may be attracted to the proposed Alternate Waste Treatment Systems facility, to be developed in Hays Road at Point Henry,” said the Chair of the Barwon Regional Waste Management Group, Cr. John Burgess.

“The study will provide important information in planning the size of the facility for the future needs of the region,” he said.

“We want to position our region as a smart place to do business and encourage future industries to locate here. Providing sustainable organic waste treatment processes is critical to the future prosperity of this region.”

Mr. Ian Coles has been commissioned to undertake an organic waste management strategy for the Barwon Region. In partnership with the Geelong Manufacturing Council, Mr Coles will be contacting major manufactures within the Barwon region during March 2009.

The report will provide a business case for consideration for funding support toward the development of the Alternate Waste Treatment Systems that will better treat the organic materials.

Cr. Burgess said, “This report will assist the Barwon region’s manufactures with an economic and environmentally sustainable solution to managing organic materials produced though food, meat and dairy manufacture and also livestock waste and those that produce organic ‘sludges’.”

Industries producing large quantities of organic materials are encouraged to contact the Barwon Regional Waste Management Group on 5277 9556. The report will be available in May 2009. Ends

Media enquiries contact:
Enzo Bruscella
Executive Officer
Ph 0417 594 947