

WSN'S SUPERIOR WASTE TECHNOLOGY HONoured

WSN took out one of two Gold Awards in the Environment for Living category of the 2008 Premier's Public Sector Awards with its Ecolibrium™ Mixed Waste facility at Macarthur Resource Recovery Park in Narellan.

The facility is designed to capture 100 per cent of greenhouse gases from household waste and convert this into green energy with which it can power itself plus the equivalent of 1,700 homes. This project, which uses ArrowBio technology, was chosen from 28 projects nominated from the public sector across New South Wales.

WSN Environmental Solutions CEO Ken Kanofski and project chief Charles Munro accepted the award from Premier Nathan Rees at a presentation in November 2008.

While the award recognises the hard work and dedication of WSN staff as well as the innovation behind this world-class project, Mr Kanofski said the four contracted councils – Campbelltown, Camden,

Wollondilly and Wingecarribee – are also to be commended for the foresight they've shown by signing up to have their residents' waste processed in the new facility for the next 15 years.

"These councils are showing great vision by preparing for a carbon-constrained future under the impending Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme," Mr Kanofski said.

Once fully operational, the facility will see local residents' recycling rate boosted dramatically, with around 85% of waste diverted from landfill. This environmental achievement comes at minimal cost to local communities, as the Park will sell recovered resources and largely avoid government landfill levies.



HOW TO CONTACT US

We value your input. There is a range of ways that you can find out more about us and our operations, or make a comment or suggestion.

- For a wide range of information about our operations and services please visit our website: www.wsn.com.au
- Report an odour – Free-call 24-hour odour complaints hotline: 1800 062 086
- Obtain information about waste disposal services, Waste and Recycling Centre

opening hours etc – Customer service information line: 1300 651 116 (7.00am–5.30pm, Monday to Friday)

- Contact a member of staff directly – 02 9934 7000
- Send us a fax – 02 9934 7185
- Send us a letter – PO Box 3260 Rhodes NSW 2138
- Feedback forms are available at the weighbridge of each Waste and Recycling Centre and on our website.

FUNDRAISING FRENZY AT EASTERN CREEK

Thank you to all the customers who, along with WSN staff, have made generous contributions to the charity collections at our Eastern Creek site. Most recently, Eastern Creek Waste & Recycling Centre has been accepting donations to the Victorian bushfires appeal, for which over \$2,300 was raised in just a few days. Other fundraising drives have seen over \$4,500 of donations collected for charities supporting breast and prostate cancer.

LUCAS HEIGHTS SCALES UP

WSN is proposing to expand its operations at Lucas Heights, building an Ecolibrium™ Mixed Waste facility that will extract even more valuable resource from waste and divert 70% of household mixed waste from landfill.

The facility would be integrated with the existing suite of facilities on site, which includes a native seedling nursery, a garden organics processing facility, a resource recovery centre, rehabilitation areas and a host of community sports and recreation projects to be completed in 2011.

Up to 100,000 tonnes of rubbish would be processed each year through the Ecolibrium™ facility, which recovers recyclables misplaced in general waste, produces fertiliser and more water than it uses and, importantly, captures biogas from organic materials for conversion into green energy. This energy would then be used to power the facility, with the surplus being exported to the NSW power grid to provide enough electricity for 1,700 homes.

Already the largest waste-to-energy project in Australia, WSN's Lucas Heights waste facility will increase its production even further with the Ecolibrium™ facility up and running and will offset tens of thousands more tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions each year.



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REDISTRIBUTE REGENERATE RESPONSE REPLACE REVIEW REMEMBER REUSE RECOVER RESEARCH REACT REPLY RETHINK REPRODUCE RETURN REDEVELOP REVISE RESERVE RESPECT RESOLUTION RECLAIM REFORM RETRIEVE REPRESENT REDUCE



ISSUE 13 MARCH 2009 ■ A REGULAR UPDATE ON WHAT'S HAPPENING AT WSN

WELCOME TO 'RESOURCE'

Welcome to the latest issue of Resource, our customer newsletter. We hope that Resource keeps you well informed about the services and facilities available to you and highlights sustainable initiatives.

Would you prefer to receive this newsletter electronically? Would you or any of your colleagues like to be added to the mailing list? If so, please contact Marketing and Communications Officer, Kate Concannon, on 9934 7019 or email kate.concannon@wsn.com.au.

WSN SUPPORTS CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY



WSN's Loani Tierney and Mark Kosciuszko clean up bushland along Crozier Road, Belmore.

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Sunday 1st March saw thousands of people join community projects to clean up their local area. WSN supported Clean Up Day by receiving free of charge waste collected at clean up sites and brought to WSN facilities by councils.

Each year, WSN sponsors this powerful environmental and ecological initiative in order to support those councils who contribute to the clean up. Since 1998, WSN has received over 11,500 tonnes of councils' Clean Up Waste.

This year marked the 20th Clean Up Australia Day. Yet again, it was a great triumph of community action for the environment with over 6,400 clean up projects registered around the nation.

DID YOU KNOW?

It takes 50 times the energy contained in a disposable battery to manufacture it.

Investing in a battery recharger and rechargeable batteries will save you money and reduce pressure on our environment.

CEO'S MESSAGE



Ken Kanofski, CEO

The Federal Government's White Paper on the design of the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme (CPRS) has produced mixed results for WSN and the waste industry.

Firstly, we welcome the coverage of the waste sector under the CPRS. This decision is good for the industry and good for the environment.

It rewards operators who have invested in more sustainable, low-emissions waste processing technology and provides certainty about the future cost of carbon emissions, thereby enabling industry players to make long-term investment decisions.

WSN strongly supports market-based instruments to achieve environmental outcomes, however, there is a serious flaw in the scheme with regard to "legacy" greenhouse as emissions from waste already disposed of in landfill, much of which is decades old.

WSN's landfills are highly engineered and our network of sites generates enough renewable energy to power 36,000 homes. However, even with the best technology available, some fugitive emissions are inevitable.

We can't go back and un-landfill the waste, nor can we write our old customers an invoice for the cost of it. There is no fair and competitively neutral way of recouping our costs, so this market-based instrument will simply turn into a tax on how long we've been in business.

The tax on legacy emissions won't take effect until 2018, but with waste in landfills emitting greenhouse gases for up to 50 years after it is dumped, this is not much more than a band-aid solution.

The scheme should be about influencing the future, not about the past. Legacy emissions from landfill should be excluded from the CPRS altogether.

Ken Kanofski
Chief Executive Officer

MILESTONES

MILLIONTH MEGAWATT HOUR

WSN celebrated the arrival of the new year by generating its millionth megawatt hour of renewable energy at the Lucas Heights II Waste and Recycling Centre.

The on-site power station is currently generating enough green energy from decomposing rubbish to power more than 16,000 homes – enough for every household in the surrounding suburbs of Barden Ridge, Bangor, Alfords Point, Illawong, Menai and Engadine.

The facility also saves approximately 360 million litres of water each year when compared with a traditional coal-fired power station generating the same amount of electricity. This volume of water goes a long way, filling the equivalent of 144 Olympic-sized swimming pools

The power station is operated by Energy Developments Limited (EDL) and is the largest waste to energy project in Australia.

Renewable energy is at the forefront of the fight against climate change and this significant milestone shows that the waste industry can play an important role in cutting greenhouse gas emissions. Capturing gas from landfill and generating green energy is a crucial interim measure as the waste industry moves towards alternative waste technology.

WSN sites currently export enough green energy to the NSW Energy Grid to provide year-round power to 36,000 homes. The greenhouse gas savings are equivalent to taking 378,000 average cars off the road for a year. By 2014, WSN sites will be exporting enough green energy to the grid to power 40,000 homes.

1,000 MOBILE PHONES AND COUNTING

A highly successful phone recycling scheme run by Eurobodalla Shire Council and WSN has seen over 1,000 mobile phones recovered since it was introduced earlier this year. Eurobodalla's campaign has enabled residents to clean out phone-related e-waste in an environmentally responsible way.

Run in conjunction with MobileMuster, the scheme enables residents to recycle their

old mobile phones, batteries and chargers by placing them in red recycling satchels provided by Council and putting them in their recycling bin.

Once the phones reach WSN's Material Recycling Facility (MRF) at Moruya, they are separated from other recyclables and sent on to MobileMuster for dismantling and recycling.

By recycling and reusing the metals and plastics in mobile phones, residents help to avoid almost 90% of the greenhouse gases normally emitted in the process of mining and refining these materials. The plastics and metals in old mobiles and accessories can be recycled and reused to make new items such as plastic fence posts, stainless steel and jewellery. Recycling mobile phones also helps keep potentially harmful substances out of landfill.

GREEN MILESTONE FOR SEVEN HILLS RECYCLING CENTRE

Seven Hills Waste & Recycling Centre saw its 100,000th tonne of garden organics pass through the gates in recent weeks. Garden organics, including lawn clippings and tree branches, are received at Seven Hills and then sent to a processing centre, where they are converted into high quality compost and soil conditioning products.

WSN processes garden organics from 613,000 kerbside collections in Sydney, as well as from drop-offs from householders and small businesses. By separating their green waste, our customers are making a difference for the environment – and not just by keeping this organic matter out of landfills, where it decomposes to produce greenhouse gases.

Re-use of these processed garden organics reduces our reliance on scarce virgin soils and the recycled organic materials produced provides a great alternative for a number of market sectors including landscaping, home gardening, horticulture and agriculture.

DID YOU KNOW?

Recyclable material makes up almost 80% of total household waste in Australia

WSN EXPANDS BUSINESS, LOWERS 2007-2008 ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINT

WSN has reduced its ecological footprint for the fourth straight year in 2007-2008, even though the business expanded operations significantly during this time.

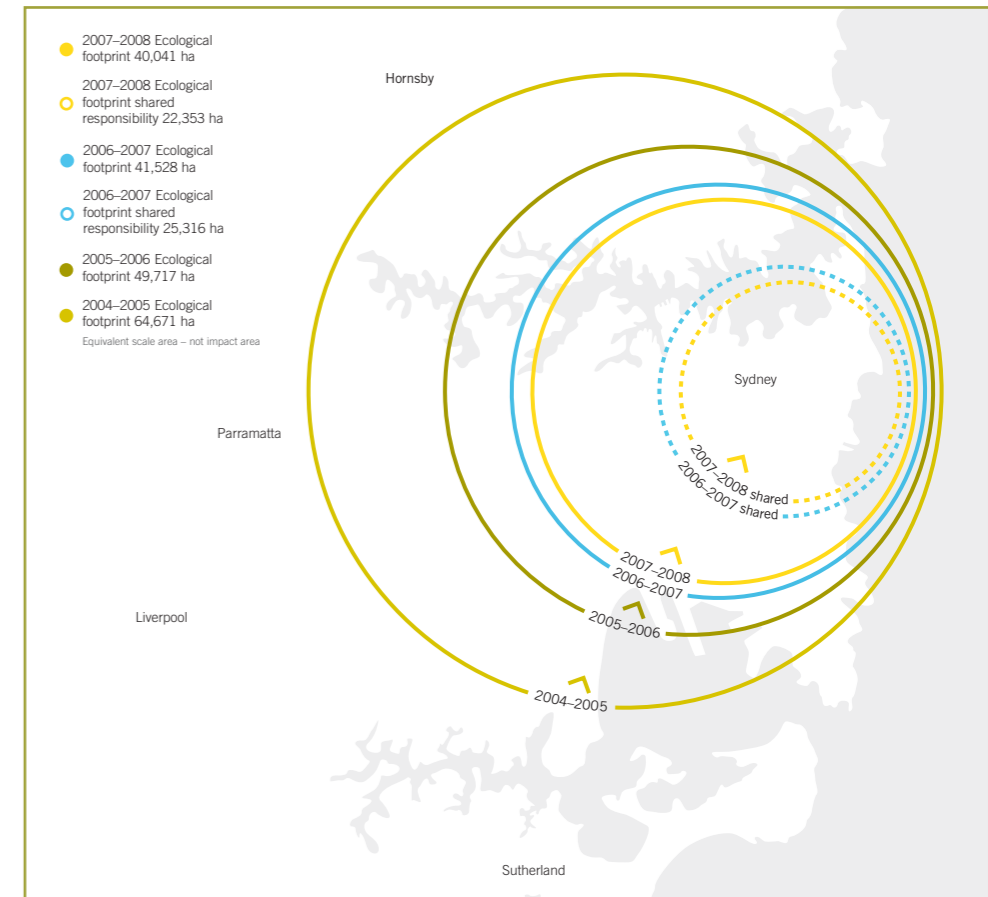
In the last financial year, WSN recorded a footprint of 40,041 hectares, 4% slighter than the previous year of 2006-2007. This reduction was achieved despite taking on emissions-intensive kerbside collection contracts and expanding the workforce by 31 per cent.

The improvement came from increased production of green electricity from landfills and increased resource recovery at the Eastern Creek AWT facility, which returned to near capacity following extensive repairs after a fire in 2006.

The trimming of our ecological footprint also reflected WSN's continuing diversification. In 2007-2008, 33% of revenue came from new business lines that continue the business' progress away from traditional landfilling and toward AWT processing, renewable energy production and resource recovery.

Further reductions are expected to come from several initiatives underway, including expanded gas infrastructure at Eastern Creek for renewable energy production as well as green electricity production and resource recovery at Macarthur, which becomes fully operational this year.

Our footprint reduction is also helped along by our much-valued customers who do their bit by working hard to promote responsible source separation and by supporting sustainable waste solutions including AWT.



WSN began measuring its ecological footprint in 2004-2005. The footprint is expressed in hectares, which is a representation of the amount of land that would be disturbed to support WSN's operations. This includes direct operations and the cumulative impacts arising in its supply chain.

WSN also achieved an 11.7 per cent reduction in its shared responsibility footprint, which divides the impacts generated by its supply chain and business operations between WSN, its customers and its supply chain.

PLANET PROTECTORS POWER UP

Education officer, Gareth Jones, has been speaking with school teaching staff and council waste educators about WSN's Planet Protectors program.

Most recently, Gareth addressed teachers from schools in the Randwick Council area on this integrated program for primary school aged children.

Planet Protectors is a multimedia learning tool designed to help educate students about sustainable waste management principles

and to influence families and the broader community.

It's based on the Waste Hierarchy, which places emphasis firstly on reducing waste, then on reusing, reprocessing and recycling waste to maximise resource recovery, and finally on the environmentally responsible disposal of residual waste.

To learn more about Planet Protectors and how your school or council can get involved, contact Gareth Jones on 9934 7091.

