

WASTE MANAGEMENT NEEDS BETTER LEGISLATION NOT POLICY ON THE RUN

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PLANNING
ENVIRONMENT
VALUATION

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OVERVIEW

1. What is MWOO
2. Why is it important
3. How is it regulated
4. What happened in NSW
5. Where to from here



since 2016



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WHAT IS MWOO

- Mixed waste organic output or material ('MWOO')
- Processed in two stages:
 1. Mechanical sorting and separation, and
 2. Pasteurisation and stabilisation
- Processed in Alternative Waste Treatment ('AWT') facilities



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WHY IS IT IMPORTANT

- By 2021, NSW is expected to process nearly 20 million tonnes of waste
- NSW Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy 2014-2021:
 - avoiding and reducing the amount of waste generated
 - increasing recycling rates and waste diverted from landfill
 - better managing problem waste
 - reducing litter and combatting illegal dumping
- In NSW between 2016-17 approximately 25% of red-bin waste was diverted from landfill and sent to an AWT facility for processing
- China's *National Sword Policy*



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HOW IS IT REGULATED

- Legislation:
 - *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 ('POEO Act')*
 - *Protection of the Environment Operations (Waste) Regulation 2014 ('Waste Regulation')*
- Resource Recovery Orders
- Resource Recovery Exemptions



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WHAT HAS HAPPENED IN NSW

- NSW EPA: *Alternative Waste Treatment – Mixed Waste Derived Organics Technical Advisory Committee report to the NSW Environment Protection Authority Report – April 2018*
- Revocation of the exemption – October 2018
- Interim regime – exemption from landfill levy
- Impact on Local Council's and industry
 - Case study: Nambucca, Bellingen and Coffs Harbour City Shires



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WHERE TO FROM HERE

- Strike a balance between protection of the environment with the need to divert waste from landfill
- Possibility for application of MWOO to plantation forests and mine rehabilitation
- Is there an opportunity to repurpose the AWT infrastructure?



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QUESTIONS?



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