



RIS Ref: DEHP557-1116

File Ref: DOC17/508

10 February 2017

Mr Chris Stewart
Principal Policy Officer
Environmental Policy and Planning
Department of Environment and Heritage Protection
GPO Box 2454
BRISBANE QLD 4002

Dear Mr Stewart

Consultation Regulatory Impact Statement: Regulated Waste

Thank you for your initial enquiry of 14 November 2016 and further information provided 19 January 2017 and 7 February 2017, seeking advice on the adequacy of the "Regulated Waste" Consultation Regulatory Impact Statement (RIS).

The Consultation RIS details the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection's (the Department) proposed amendments to legislation regulating the waste sector in Queensland. Specifically the RIS includes discussion of regulated waste classifications and environmentally related activities (ERAs), including:

- the move to a 'risk based' classification of regulated wastes based on the risk to the environment and human health, rather than the current system of wastes being classified as 'regulated' or 'non-regulated'
- a new schedule of five waste-related ERAs incorporating the new waste classification system, which the Department considers better reflects risk of activities and supports new and emerging technologies, but may see some currently unregulated activities requiring approval
- waste activity approvals currently devolved to local government for metal recovery, waste incineration and thermal treatment will transfer to the state.

The Department states that additional fee revenue to the Government from the proposed changes to waste related approvals is estimated to be between \$300,000 to \$1.1 million, as a result of both increased fees to some businesses and the State receiving fees for approvals currently devolved to local government. However, the Department estimates that more than 50% of businesses are expected to pay less under the new framework. The Queensland Productivity Commission (the Commission) notes that all these impacts have been clearly presented and discussed in the Consultation RIS.

The Commission has assessed the Department's Consultation RIS, and considers it adequate for the purpose of public consultation. Consultation with stakeholders will assist in further development of the proposal, including verifying the analysis provided and whether the proposal will have any further unforeseen adverse impacts on industry.

Consistent with the Queensland Government Guide to Better Regulation, the final Consultation RIS and this letter of adequacy will be published on the Commission's website once the RIS is approved for release. After consultation has concluded, a Decision RIS incorporating the consideration of public comments should be provided to the Commission for assessment before the matter is finally referred to Cabinet for decision.

Please contact Sean Mackay, Principal Analyst on (07) 3015 5149 if you require any additional information or guidance in relation to the above comments or the RIS guidelines in general.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kim Wood". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kim Wood
Principal Commissioner