

9. JUSTIFICATION AND CONCLUSIONS

This section provides an evaluation of the proposed RIRP in terms of its environmental impact, need and the principles of Ecologically Sustainable Development.

9.1 JUSTIFICATION FOR THE PROPOSED RIRP

9.1.1 Need for the Proposed Development

Section 2.4 of this EA documents the need for and role of the proposed RIRP. The Australian National Waste Policy: Less Waste, More Resources was finalised in November 2009. It sets the agenda for waste and resource recovery in Australia over the next 10 years and includes strategies to monitor and address organic waste. The aims of the Policy are to:

- Avoid the generation of waste, reduce the amount of waste (including hazardous waste) for disposal;
- Manage waste as a resource;
- Ensure that waste treatment, disposal, recovery and re-use is undertaken in a safe, scientific and environmentally sound manner; and
- Contribute to the reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, energy conservation and production, water efficiency and the productivity of the land.

The proposed RIRP would support the National Waste Policy and address growing demand for the treatment and processing of organic material by:

- Providing and supporting the development of markets for potential wastes;
- Providing access to knowledge and expertise;
- Reducing the amount of biodegradable material in landfill; and
- Providing a source for the re-use of recycled C&I waste.

The NSW *WARR Act* established the strategic direction for waste management and resource recovery in NSW. The objectives include:

- (b) To ensure that resource management options are considered against a hierarchy of the following order:*
- i) Avoidance of unnecessary resource consumption;*
 - ii) Resource recovery (including reuse, reprocessing, recycling and energy recovery);*
 - iii) Disposal.*

The Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy sets out waste reduction, resource recovery and diversion of waste from landfills targets for NSW. Of relevance to the proposed RIRP the target for increasing recovery and use of secondary resources is by 2014 to:

- Increase recovery and utilisation of materials from municipal sector from the current 26% to 66%;
- Increase recovery and utilisation of materials from the commercial & industrial sector from the current 28% to 63%; and

- Increase recovery and utilisation of materials from the construction & demolition sector from the current 65% to 76%.

In this policy context REMONDIS considers that the proposed RIRP is an appropriate response to the recycling and resource recovery targets at a National and State level.

9.1.2 Suitable Site

The site of the proposed RIRP is located on land to which SREP No 28 – Parramatta applies. The proposed development is permissible with consent under the SREP zoning. Parramatta City Council has proposed a new Draft LEP supported by a Draft DCP. Under the Draft LEP the site is zoned Heavy Industrial and waste storage, processing and recycling facilities are permissible with consent. This EA addresses the objectives of both the SREP and Draft LEP zonings in the context of the proposed RIRP.

REMONDIS has evaluated a range of alternative sites for the proposed RIRP. The site was selected on the basis of proximity to demand for C&I and organic waste recovery, access to major motorway and road links, appropriate zoning and the ability to minimise and contain environmental impacts. In addition, the proposed development is not in conflict with the use of the site in the context of its history of contamination.

All works involving disturbance to the cap for installation of site services will be undertaken by the site owner Billbergia who has previous experience on the site, in accordance with an OEH approved Site Work Plan.

9.1.3 Operational and Environmental Management

Construction and operation of the proposed RIRP will be in accordance with the relevant environmental management plan. These environmental requirements will incorporate the measures proposed in Section 6 of this EA to minimise and control impacts, the commitments made in Section 8 and the Conditions of Approval and EPL Conditions following determination of the Development Application.

9.2 CONCLUSION

This EA presents an assessment of the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed RIRP at 1 Grand Avenue, Camellia.

The EA has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of Part 3A of the *EP&A Act* and the Director-General's Requirements issued by the Department of Planning. Specific environmental investigations were undertaken to assess the potential environmental impacts. The results of these are documented in Section 7 of the EA and the Technical Reports.

The proposed RIRP will result in less waste material being disposed of in landfills serving the Sydney region and improved recycling and resource recovery.

The environmental assessment undertaken concludes that the environmental impacts associated with construction and operation of the proposed RIRP are minor and can be effectively managed through REMONDIS commitments to the RIRP management measures described in this EA.

The operation of the proposed RIRP is in accordance with the principles of ESD, the National Waste Policy and the NSW State Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy.