

# insidewaste

A WMAA Publication

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Waste Management Association of Australia

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Dial A Dump plans to turn a Sydney quarry into a major dry waste landfill.

## Approvals sought for new landfill site

DIAL A Dump has bought one of Sydney's last potential landfill sites, the former Fitzpatrick hard rock quarry at Eastern Creek. The western suburbs site has an estimated capacity of 11-12 million cubic metres and will be used for class 2 solid waste landfill, with a recycling centre also planned.

The company paid \$130 million for the 123-hectare site, which it plans to recoup in part through a major industrial subdivision over some 70 hectares.

Christopher Biggs, Dial A Dump group general manager, says the quarry is

zoned for landfill. EPA licences and approval from Blacktown Council will now be sought for the operation, which will in time replace its Alexandria landfill which has just over 1 million cubic metres remaining capacity. An application will also be made for an MRF similar to the company's Alexandria operation, which recovers demolition and green garden waste.

Biggs says approvals for the waste operations may take up to two years but he would like to have approval for the industrial subdivision in 6-8 months.

## Cheaper bins not being dumped: Schaefer

SULO Australia and Nylex have lodged a formal application with Australian Customs alleging Singapore-based Schaefer has been dumping cheap mobile garbage bins. However, both are remaining tight-lipped about the case.

"When you look at the current [price] status in terms of the marketplace we believe it's a sound case," Nylex's Mark Orval told *Inside Waste*.

Sulo MD Michael Huston said only that he expects "some action before the end of the month". Schaefer chief Greg Gornall said lower manufacturing costs at its Malaysian facilities and cheaper materials costs explained the price differences, not dumping excess bins at cheap prices. In a statement he said: "HDPE, which makes up more than half the cost of production of a standard wheelie bin, is obtained by Schaefer at world prices ... Australian HDPE prices are at a significant premium to world prices."

Customs has up to 20 days to determine if there is reasonable evidence of price subsidisation and decide if there was any material injury to the local market. If it decides an investigation is warranted it has 155 days to investigate and report to Customs Minister Chris Ellison for a final decision.

Meanwhile, spiraling oil costs have seen Waste & Recycling Supplies (SA) marketing manager Peter Donnell warn of higher prices in the next round of bin tenders. He said the cost of plastic was rumoured to jump from around \$1,700 a tonne to \$2,000 due to the rising oil price and peaking demand for plastic from China and the New Orleans reconstruction effort.

"We've had notification that prices are most likely to rise . . . there will be restrictions of material supply within the next six months," said Donnell.

## Cleanaway sheds Germany

BRAMBLES has sold Cleanaway Germany to German waste management group Sulo for \$893 million, confirming weeks of rumour. But Brambles CEO David Turner said they planned to hold on to Cleanaway UK.

The poorly performing German division, which employs over 2,600 people and operates 50 facilities in central and eastern Europe, had gross assets of \$881 million. The sale is subject to approval from European competition authorities.

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