

## Date

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## Issue

Establishment of a sustainable hazardous waste treatment industry in WA and implications for Kwinana industry.

## Industry Contact

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## Background Summary

- Following the Bellevue fire and closure of the Brookdale waste treatment facility the WA government commenced a range of programs to implement better hazardous waste management in WA.
- The State Government subsequently facilitated a process of site selection for a new hazardous waste disposal facility to compliment or replace current hazardous waste disposal facilities.
- The process has involved significant consultation in excess of 3 years with industry, Government and the community represented on a common working group in what has become known as the '3C process'.
- The process is in the final stages of site selection with presentations and information being disseminated and explained to relevant stakeholder groups including local Governments in which the facility may be based, as well as local communities.

## KIC Position and Key Messages

- The KIC recognises the existence of a sustainable hazardous waste treatment industry in WA as essential.
- The KIC is very supportive of Government initiatives to better regulate the storage, management and treatment of hazardous materials.
- Industry is adamant that strong and consistent regulations should apply across all types of hazardous materials to ensure safe and appropriate storage, management, transport and disposal.
- Industry is however, opposed to 'unnecessary' cost burdens associated with providing safe transport and disposal of hazardous waste where it cannot be demonstrated that the health and safety of the community is at risk.
- The KIC is cautiously supportive of hazardous waste disposal facilities within the Kwinana precinct provided they meet all necessary environmental and health standards.
- The original intent of the terms of reference for the 3C process did not include or forecast closure of existing facilities, or forcing relocation. The 3C Committee has subsequently adopted this position, and the KIC does not support such a stance, where it can be demonstrated that the continued operation of such facilities does not affect the health and safety of the community or workforce that operate them.

## Relevant Resource Materials

- Core Consultative Committee on Waste: [www.3c.org.au](http://www.3c.org.au)