



19 February 2018

EPA Determine Level of Assessment

The Shire advises that the EPA has elected to undertake the highest level of assessment (Public Environmental Review) when investigating the environmental & social factors for the potential landfill site on Kirwan Road.

The Shire of Esperance and other community members requested this level of assessment in anticipation that it will provide confidence to all proponents that a full independent environmental assessment will be completed and includes the opportunity for public input at a later stage.

The level of assessment is the first step in a range of environmental approvals that are required for the establishment of a new landfill.

Shire President Victoria Brown said "We welcome the decision of the EPA for a Public Environmental Review. The Esperance environment is a priority to Council and any potential impacts must be been fully investigated to determine if this location is the right place to build a landfill site. We do not want to build a landfill site in a location that may cause damage to our beautiful natural assets.

"A modern waste management facility is always going to create angst amongst those who live nearby and we all need to be certain that a new landfill site will have no significant impact on the surrounding environment, the neighbours and the community."

The Shire and consultants can now commence work on a Scoping Document that will detail the future works required to address the key environmental attributes identified by the EPA.

The Key Environmental Attributes outlined for assessment by the EPA are:

- Inland Waters Environmental Quality - catchments
- Hydrological Processes - ground and surface water
- Social Surroundings - amenity including odour, noise, tourism etc
- Terrestrial Environmental Quality – soil contamination

Ends

MEDIA CONTACT:

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Additional information:

<http://www.epa.wa.gov.au/proposals/esperance-waste-management-facility>

ENC: Extract of Determination from EPA

Public record pursuant to s39(1) of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*

Proposal Title: Esperance Waste Management Facility

Proposal Location: Shire of Esperance

Case Number: CMS17230

Date referral received: 23 October 2017 **Date more information received:** 22 January 2018

Referrer: Shire of Esperance

Proponent: Shire of Esperance

Potential significant effects:

The proposal has the potential to impact on soil and groundwater quality due to leachate seepage; potential impacts to surface water quality and flows; potential impacts from odour, noise, dust and landfill gas emissions.

Preliminary key environmental factors:

Terrestrial Environmental Quality, Hydrological Processes, Inland Waters Environmental Quality and Social Surroundings.

Public comment on referral information:

Do not assess:	3
Assess: a) Referral information	0
b) Environmental review - no public review	1
c) Public environmental review	80
<i>Total submissions:</i>	84

Decision: s. 39A – Assess

Level of assessment: Public environmental review

Other details

Proponent-prepared Environmental Scoping Document

Public review period for Environmental Review Document (6 weeks)

Explanation of decision:

This proposal has a high level of public interest. Detailed assessment is required to determine the extent of the proposal's direct and indirect impacts, and how the environmental issues could be managed.

Appeals: Decision not appealable.



Dr Tom Hatton

CHAIRMAN

Delegate of the Environmental Protection Authority

Date: 14 February 2018