



## **‘Energy from waste’ technology**

### TERMS OF REFERENCE

That Portfolio Committee No. 6 inquire into and report on matters relating to the waste disposal industry in New South Wales, with particular reference to ‘energy from waste’ technology, and in particular:

- a) the current provision of waste disposal and recycling, the impact of waste levies and the capacity (considering issues of location, scale, technology and environmental health) to address the ongoing disposal needs for commercial, industrial, household and hazardous waste
- b) the role of ‘energy from waste’ technology in addressing waste disposal needs and the resulting impact on the future of the recycling industry
- c) current regulatory standards, guidelines and policy statements oversighting ‘energy from waste’ technology, including reference to regulations covering:
  - i. the European Union
  - ii. United States of America
  - iii. international best practice
- d) additional factors which need to be taken into account within regulatory and other processes for approval and operation of ‘energy from waste’ plants
- e) the responsibility given to state and local government authorities in the environmental monitoring of ‘energy from waste’ facilities
- f) opportunities to incorporate future advances in technology into any operating ‘energy from waste’ facility
- g) the risks of future monopolisation in markets for waste disposal and the potential to enable a ‘circular economy’ model for the waste disposal industry
- h) the transport of all classifications of waste and recyclable materials out of New South Wales and the consequences for waste disposal, government revenue and environment programs, employment, roads and transport routes, and the environment
- i) the prevalence and scale of illegal dumping across New South Wales and the actions of the NSW Environment Protection Authority to address it, and
- j) the sustainability and impacts of the current waste and landfill regime on human and environmental health, including drinking water, soil contamination, fire hazards and emissions
- k) any other related matter.

## Committee membership

<b>The Hon Paul Green MLC</b>	Christian Democratic Party	<i>Chair</i>
<b>The Hon Shayne Mallard MLC</b>	Liberal Party	<i>Deputy Chair</i>
<b>Dr Mehreen Faruqi MLC*</b>	The Greens	
<b>The Hon John Graham MLC*</b>	Australian Labor Party	
<b>The Hon Taylor Martin MLC*</b>	Liberal Party	
<b>The Hon Matthew Mason-Cox MLC</b>	Liberal Party	
<b>The Hon Penny Sharpe MLC</b>	Australian Labor Party	

\* Dr Mehreen Faruqi MLC is substituting for Mr Jeremy Buckingham MLC from 18 August 2017 for the duration of the inquiry.

\* The Hon John Graham MLC is substituting for the Hon Ernest Wong MLC from 23 August 2017 for the duration of the inquiry.

\* The Hon Taylor Martin MLC replaced the Hon Lou Amato MLC as a substantive member of the committee from 30 November 2017.