



## INDUSTRIAL WASTE RESOURCE GUIDELINES

# DIRECT AND SECONDARY BENEFICIAL REUSE

### CONTENTS

CONTENT .....	1
INTRODUCTION .....	1
WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU .....	1
IMPLEMENTATION .....	1

## INTRODUCTION

The new *Environment Protection (Industrial Waste Resource) Regulations 2009* provide a framework for driving resource efficiency and improving the management of industrial wastes with the goal of minimising the disposal of waste to landfill.

This framework provides a basis from which industry must assess and implement practicable opportunities to avoid, reduce, reuse or recycle their wastes and avoid disposal to landfill.

The Regulations seek to provide an efficient, robust and safe process for reusing and recycling prescribed industrial wastes (PIWs), including practical measures for avoidance and waste reduction, along with streamlining the approval process for reusing and recycling.

## WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

If you are a waste producer with a waste stream that meets the requirements for direct beneficial reuse (DBR), you can make arrangements directly with the receiver to commence the diversion of the waste from landfill, without requiring EPA approval.

If you have a waste stream that has the potential to be diverted from landfill, but will require treatment before it is able to be reused, an application for secondary beneficial reuse (SBR) should be lodged with EPA.

## IMPLEMENTATION

### Direct beneficial reuse (DBR)

This is where the waste producer can identify and realise a reuse for their industrial waste that does not require it to be treated or reprocessed to enable its reuse. The reuse material is put into the industrial process in the same way as any other input and is handled in the same way as the raw material it replaces would be handled.

DBR opportunities may be carried out without EPA involvement.

### Example

A chemical manufacturer in Melbourne's western suburbs identified that a wax residue from their plant, which was classified as a Prescribed Industrial Waste (PIW) and going to landfill, could be used as a wax substitute by some of their clients in other manufacturing processes.

As the wax residue does not require any treatment or reprocessing to enable its reuse, a DBR would allow the reuse of the wax, with no EPA approval necessary.

### Secondary beneficial reuse (SBR)

This is where a waste producer can identify a reuse for their industrial waste, but the material requires treatment or reprocessing to enable that reuse.

The producer must apply to EPA for a SBR. Verification of the suitability of the reuse, by an independent third party, is required prior to the application being lodged. The Authority retains the ability to attach conditions to, refuse to authorise, and amend or revoke authorised SBRs.

SBR opportunities must be applied for through the EPA online application system. The Industrial Waste Resource Guidelines (IWRG) *Secondary beneficial reuse notification* document provides details on how to apply and what information is required in the application.

### Example

Grease trap waste is a high organic content material generated at fast food outlets, restaurants and commercial kitchens. It can be treated at commercial composting plants, where it's composted with garden green waste, to produce compost that is then sold to market. In this example, it is likely that the composter would apply for the SBR, allowing them to receive wastes from a large number of generators. They would need to demonstrate that the grease trap waste was replacing an existing input or raw material, that the composting process adequately broke down the grease trap waste and that the resulting product was not adversely affected by the addition of the grease trap waste.

It must be remembered that the commercial composting operators are producing a product for market that must meet the needs of their customers. As such it is not in their interest to incorporate materials into their process that would jeopardise the quality of their product.

This guidance forms part of the Industrial Waste Resource Guidelines (IWRG), which offer guidance for wastes and resources regulated under the *Environment Protection (Industrial Waste Resource) Regulations 2009* (the Regulations). Publication IWRG410 – June 2009.