



SOUTHERN METROPOLITAN REGIONAL COUNCIL



26 March 2007

MEDIA STATEMENT

Temporary Closure for Waste Facility

The Southern Metropolitan Regional Council has temporarily closed its waste composting facility in Canning Vale.

Council Chairman Doug Thompson said the Council decision to implement a temporary closure was made to ensure the community was not affected as final remediation work was carried out.

"We have made this decision in the interests of the community and we are determined to ensure that residents are not subject to the release of any odours from the facility," he said.

"Today, the nation's most well-respected odour consultant, Terry Schulz of The Odour Unit, has completed a thorough inspection of the facility.

"The Department of Environment and Conservation recommended Mr Schulz, who has overseen the implementation of a \$2.4 million upgrade at the plant, to address the issue of odour."

Cr Thompson said the Council was very conscious of the concerns of local residents who had registered odour complaints since the facility reopened in February and was determined to resolve the issue.

"We have here a \$70 million community investment which represents Western Australia's most effective weapon in the war on climate change," he said.

"The waste composting facility is credited with preventing an average of 80,000 tonnes of harmful greenhouse gases entering our atmosphere each and every year – that is almost the entire amount the West Australian Government has set as our State's annual target for greenhouse gas abatement for 2007."

"The SMRC is determined to ensure this crucial facility can continue to help fight climate change and provide sustainable waste disposal without having any negative impact on the quality of life of our residents."

Cr Thompson said a special meeting of the SMRC had resolved to continue to work collaboratively with the Department of Environment and Conservation to ensure the odour issue was resolved.

END OF MEDIA STATEMENT

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Chuck Ellis, Manager Communications
Southern Metropolitan Regional Council
9 Aldous Place, Myaree WA 6153
PO Box 1501 Booragoon WA 6954

Tel: (08) 9329 2714
Fax: (08) 9330 6788
Mobile: 0410 503 301
E-mail: cellis@smrc.com.au