

Council to pull out of waste site

DANIEL HATCH

Canning Council will pull out of the controversial Regional Resource Recovery Centre at Canning Vale, leaving ratepayers exposed to a \$20 million liability that could see rates leap, the facility's operator has warned.

The council decided last week it would withdraw from the Southern Metropolitan Regional Council over the economic sustainability of the facility and the environmental hazards it causes.

Since it opened in 2003, nearby residents have complained consistently about odour problems.

But SMRC chairman Doug Thompson said Canning had to explain how the multi-million-dollar cost of withdrawing from the regional council would be covered, where the council would dispose of its rubbish, and what the environmental cost of that decision would be.

Canning mayor Joe Delle Donne said yesterday no services to ratepayers, including rubbish and recycling collection, would be affected and the council could dispose of its waste more efficiently and cost effectively outside the SMRC.