



SITA Australia Pty Ltd
ABN 70 002 902 650

Corporate Office

Level 3, 3 Rider Boulevard
Rhodes, Sydney
NSW 2138
Australia

PO Box 3500, Rhodes Waterside
Sydney
NSW 2138
Australia

Phone: +61 2 8754 0000

Fax: +61 2 8754 0199

Email: Australia@sitacom.au

May 23, 2008

NEW WASTE TREATMENT PLANT TO REDUCE WESTERN SYDNEY'S CARBON FOOTPRINT

A new \$40 million advanced waste treatment plant will markedly reduce the carbon footprint of Sydney's western suburbs residents, as waste is diverted from landfill and materials are recovered and recycled for beneficial reuse.

The SITA Environmental Solutions' major project at Elizabeth Drive, Kemps Creek, will enable 134,000 tonnes of waste to be processed annually, with up to 70 percent being diverted from landfill.

The SAWT (SITA Advanced Waste Treatment) plant was recently approved by the NSW Government and Planning Minister, Frank Sartor, after a rigorous assessment process. Works are expected to commence shortly and the plant is expected to be up and running midway through next year.

"The greenhouse emissions avoided by recycling organic waste, rather than letting it decompose in a landfill, adds up to around 90,000 tonnes of greenhouse gases, the equivalent of taking 20,000 cars off the road each year", said Emmanuel Vivant, SITA's Executive Director, Post Collections.

"The main users of the new facility will be Penrith and Liverpool Councils and the move to have their waste processed and recycled in an Advanced Waste Treatment plant is a vital step in reducing the carbon footprint of their citizens", Mr Vivant said.

"The most critical decision that local governments make about greenhouse gas reduction is what they do with their waste, which generally accounts for twice the emissions profile of their motor vehicle fleet.

"Environmentally committed councils need to look at keeping organics out of landfill through the employment of an Advanced Waste Treatment plant or the separation of organics through a collection service and associated compost facility.

The SAWT process uses proven technology and offers holistic solutions for councils, converting organic waste from the residual waste stream into compost and mulch products, and recovering valuable resources such as aluminium, steel, plastic and glass.

After launching a waste reduction strategy two years ago the next step for Penrith Council is introducing organics to its collection - primarily food and green waste. The council

expects to supply the SAWT plant with 26,000t of organics and after the biological process the product will be some 10,000t of high grade compost.

The plant will also process Liverpool Council's residual waste, recovering valuable materials and producing compost and mulch, much of which can be used for land rehabilitation and roadside revegetation.

"One of our biggest problems in managing waste across the country is that 8.5 million tonnes of degradable organic waste goes into landfill nationally every year. Organics then anaerobically produce methane, which has 25 times the global warming effect as carbon dioxide.

"Building a plant like this makes a real difference and the community should feel they are about to take a major step forward in the fight against climate change", Mr Vivant said.

SITA is part of SUEZ Environment, Europe's largest waste management & recycling services provider and operates some 1800 waste treatment and recovery sites including more than 100 organic composting facilities.

SITA Environmental Solutions, a SUEZ Environment subsidiary, provides weekly services to over 43,000 commercial and industrial clients and more than 800,000 households across Australia

SITA's services include domestic, commercial & industrial waste collection; waste assessments; resource recovery and recycling options; processing of organic materials into compost; renewable energy facilities; hygiene services; waste treatment; and product destruction.

SUEZ Environment, a branch of the SUEZ Group, supplies services, plant and equipment essential to life and to environmental protection: drinking water production and distribution, wastewater collection and treatment, waste processing and recycling. Backed by its experience in the water and waste sectors, SUEZ Environment has a wide-ranging portfolio of know-how, providing sustainable solutions for local authorities and businesses.

ENDS

Media Contact: Mike Ritchie, SITA Environmental Solutions 0401 980 391
Michael Meagher: CPR Communications 0410482367