

Investigation into the Transport of Waste into Queensland

Submission no. 0008

Name BMI Resource Recovery

26 September 2017

Investigation into the Transport of Waste into Queensland
GPO Box 2454
Brisbane QLD 4001

Attn: The Honorable Dear Sir

The BMI Resource Recovery Centers have since 1992 processed Construction and Demolition Waste. BMI has developed a recycling focus with significant investments into waste processing equipment. This equipment includes:

- Concrete processing equipment;
 - Fixed crushing plants the latest of which is designed to operate at tonnes per hour.
 - Mobile crushing plant incorporating impact crushers and screens
 - Preprocessing equipment in the form of pulverizers and hammers attached to excavators.
 - Material handling equipment such as loaders, dump trucks, bulldozers and excavators
- Mixed Construction and Demolition waste processing equipment:
 - 2 x dedicated C&D waste processing lines incorporating:
 - Screens
 - Blowers
 - Magnets
 - Picking stations
- Green waste and timber processing equipment
 - Shredders
 - Screens
 - Green waste power station (now decommissioned)

This equipment and approximately 80 staff are involved in the processing of waste and the diversion of waste from landfills. This diversion incorporated more than:

- 365,000t of Concrete recycled to become road base and drainage aggregates
- 5000t of Steel and Non-Ferrous scrap
- 18,000t of asphalt products
- 30,000t of Soil and sand
- 10,000t of Timber and green waste

On top of this diversion from landfill our operations contribute to the local economy through an extensive list of local Queensland suppliers who rely on us for significant components of their revenue. I have included these on an appendix to this letter.

We accept materials generally associated with the demolition and recycling industry however we also receive skip waste which may be associated with household clean ups as well as dry commercial waste, this waste is both received from both QLD and NSW sources.

The waste received at our facilities have been reasonably steady since 2009 with the exception of our Bogside facility which was only opened in July 2016.

Our waste movements are provided to the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection monthly through the QWDS program.

Pricing is considered to be commercial in confidence and given that this document may be discoverable these will not be provided in this document.

As the operator of licensed facilities to receive and process waste we take exception to the terms of reference of this inquiry which seeks to prevent the movement of waste.

We have sought and received legal advice to confirm the legality of the acceptance of this material for the purpose of recovering materials that can be repurposed and diverted from landfill.

If it is the intent of the government to prevent a legally operating Queensland operation from processing waste from NSW it will be at the cost of significant jobs both within the business directly and indirectly in businesses servicing the facilities.

As with any industry the way to develop long lasting progress to higher productivity and efficiency is through the clear and systematic development and implementation of an industry strategy with clear outcomes and associated time lines. Without these businesses will lack the confidence to invest into further industry progression.

Since the removal of the waste levy the following have occurred:

- Decommissioning of Queensland's most significant recycling facility (Willawong)
- Closure of green waste energy facility (Stapylton)
- Likely failure of the Rocky Point Power
- Reduction of landfill fees post abolishment of the levy
- Reduction in total recycling outcomes

Only with a clear and consistent waste strategy will Queensland progress to achieve the recycling and environmental outcomes currently only inspirational.

Kind Regards,

Mark Dekker
General Manager
BMI Resource Recovery