



Environment and Heritage Expertise

Technical Guideline

TG 0875.63 – Waste management

Version: 1.0.

Date: 28 August 2025.

Status: Final.

Document ID: SAWG-ENV-0875.63

Confidentiality: OFFICIAL



**Government of
South Australia**

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Significant/major changes incorporated in this edition

Not applicable - this is the first edition of the Technical Guideline.



Document controls

Version history

Version	Date	Author	Comments
1.0	28 August 2025	Various	Issued for Use

Template: Technical Guideline Version 8.1, 30 September 2024

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Reviewers

Name	Role	Version	Review Date
Environment and Heritage Expertise Team	Team review of guidelines.	1.0	28-08-2025

Contents

1 Introduction

This guideline relates to the assessment and management of waste generated during construction, operational, maintenance or decommissioning activities. All efforts to avoid the creation of waste must first be explored, followed by options to reduce, reuse and recycle.

It forms part of the TG 0875 - Environment and Heritage Technical Guidelines and is designed to provide insight into regulatory obligations associated with vegetation, as well as suggested approaches to manage risk.

Note the guideline is not exhaustive, and additional requirements may be necessary based on project- or site-specific activities, geographical location, or approval conditions.

1.1 Environment and Heritage Technical Guidelines Suite

The SAWG-ENV-0875 Environment and Heritage Technical Guidelines suite includes:

- TG 0875.00: General requirements
- TG 0875.11: Aboriginal heritage and Native Title
- TG 0875.12: Non-Aboriginal heritage
- TG 0875.21: Vegetation
- TG 0875.22: Fauna
- TG 0875.23: Weed hygiene
- TG 0875.24: Phytophthora
- TG 0875.31: Surface water
- TG 0875.32: Groundwater
- TG 0875.33: Recycled water
- TG 0875.34: Sediment, erosion and stormwater
- TG 0875.35: Dewatering, dredging and earthworks drainage
- TG 0875.41: Site contamination
- TG 0875.42: Acid sulfate soils
- TG 0875.43: Hazardous substances
- TG 0875.51: Dust
- TG 0875.52: Odour
- TG 0875.53: Noise and vibration
- TG 0875.61: Spoil management
- TG 0875.62: Recycling
- **TG 0875.63: Waste management (this guideline)**

This guideline must be read in conjunction with TG 0875.00: General requirements

1.2 General requirements

TG 0875.00: General requirements apply to all aspects of the work:

1. Purpose
2. Application
3. Scope
4. Statutory obligations
5. Strategic alignment
6. Terms and abbreviations

2 Waste management

2.1 Overview

MANAGEMENT	
Commitment	Effective waste management will reduce the risk of environmental harm, reduce the amount of waste that reaches landfill and minimise management and disposal costs. Some waste management activities are tightly regulated under state legislation.
Strategic objective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environment Corporate Strategy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We use materials efficiently, avoiding waste and extending the life of recovered resources. Asset Management Corporate Strategy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An integrated approach enables the sustainability outcomes our customers, community and owner expect.
Key Performance Indicator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> KPI 1: Evidence of following the waste hierarchy included in management plans, with particular focus on approaches to avoid, reuse, recycle. KPI 2: Waste data records provided to SA Water as per agreed schedule, in a format approved by SA Water KPI 3: No non-compliances, incidents or complaints arising from waste management activities.
Legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environment Protection Act 1993 (SA) Environment Protection Regulations 2023 (SA) Environment Protection (Waste to Resources) Policy 2010 (SA) Environment Protection (Movement of Controlled Waste) Policy 2014 (SA) Green Industries SA Act 2004 (SA) Local Nuisance and Litter Control Act 2016 (SA) Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016 (SA)
Regulatory approvals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPA Licence for prescribed activities under Schedule 1 of the EP Act Development Approval
Statutory obligations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Environment Protection Act 1993 (SA)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 3 (5): Unauthorised stockpiling of waste or other matter will be taken to have occurred if a maximum allowable stockpile limit (stockpile limit) imposed by or under the Act, through a condition of authorisation, has been exceeded. Section 10: Objects of the Act including: to promote the circulation of materials through the waste management process and to support a strong market for recovered resources. Section 25: A person must not undertake an activity that pollutes, or might pollute, the environment unless the person takes all reasonable and practicable measures to prevent or minimise any resulting environmental harm.

MANAGEMENT	
Reference material	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EPA (SA): Guidelines for the safe handling and reuse of biosolids in South Australia • EPA (SA): Guideline for stockpile management • EPA (SA): Information sheet EPA 889/10 - Current criteria for the classification of waste – including Industrial and Commercial Waste (Listed) and Waste Soil • EPA (SA): Standard for the production and use of Waste Derived Fill • EPA (SA): Stockpiling waste and waste derived products • EPA (SA): Waste guidelines EPA 842/19 - Waste definitions • EPA (SA): Waste-derived materials—guiding principles for determining approval processes and product standards • Green Industries SA: South Australia's Waste Strategy 2020-2025 • Green Industries (SA): Driving the circular economy. • National Environment Protection (Movement of Controlled Waste between States and Territories) Measure 1998 (Cth) • Which Bin SA
Related guidelines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TG 0875.43: Hazardous substances • TG 0875.61: Spoil management • TG 0875.62: Recycling

2.2 Planning and design

MITIGATION MEASURES	STAKEHOLDERS
<p>Waste hierarchy: Ensure management plans capture, and data records report on, implementation of the waste hierarchy (in order of preference):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoidance e.g., return unused materials, use prefabricated and recycled materials where possible, avoid over-ordering • Reuse e.g., reapply clean topsoil onsite, use captured water for dust suppression, use subsoil to construct temporary noise barriers • Recycle e.g., separate waste according to resource recovery, label recycling bins and stockpiles, send excess concrete to concrete recycler • Recovery of energy e.g., send waste oils to a licensed facility to be blended into fuel • Containment e.g., identify storage locations onsite with signage <p>Disposal e.g., transport to a site that is lawfully able to receive it</p>	<p>Environmental Officer Asset Planner</p>
<p>Determine whether the waste management works can use an EPA licenced facility for management and disposal, or whether an EPA licence is required for these works. Is there is an existing EPA licence, confirm what the waste management conditions are.</p>	<p>Environmental Officer</p>

MITIGATION MEASURES	STAKEHOLDERS
<p>Apply the principles of the waste hierarchy and identify the major resource inputs and outputs for the project or asset, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Major material and product categories required i.e. pipe, concrete, steel Major waste streams that will be generated i.e. cleared vegetation, spoil, demolished concrete <p>Then investigate and identify:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opportunities to reduce the volume of materials required through design optimisation Opportunities to reuse or recycle waste streams generated Suppliers or sources of recycled materials and products with lower environmental impacts Substitute or incorporate reused or recycled materials with lower environmental impacts End of life reuse or recyclability opportunities i.e. modular design, systems that can be easily adapted for future upgrades or retrofits, materials that are easily recyclable Alternative circular economy opportunities in line with SA Water's Environmental Policy, such as designing out waste and pollution, keeping products and materials in use and regenerating natural systems. <p>Identifying major resources should be completed in consultation with Table 1 in the EPA Stockpiling Guideline, to identify material risk and appropriately manage waste on site.</p>	<p>Design Manager Environmental Officer Circular Economy Specialist Project Manager</p>
Specify recycled material requirements in procurement documentation.	Design Manager Project Manager
Pollution controls should consider off-site risks including proximity of sensitive receiving environments, the impact to water, soil, human health, and amenity).	Design Manager Project Manager Environmental Officer
Management plans include procedures and plans for waste, including handling and storage procedures, and incident response plans. Confirm whether a stockpile management plan is required.	Contractor Project Manager Site Contamination Specialist

2.3 Construction

MITIGATION MEASURES	STAKEHOLDERS
All waste streams must be classified, stored, tracked, sorted, transported and treated in accordance with approved management plans and any contractual or regulatory requirements, including the use of licensed transport and treatment facilities.	Contractor
Waste should be stored on site in an appropriate, pre-determined location, which prevents it from impacting the subsurface soil profile, groundwater or migrating off site. Waste stockpiles should be managed in accordance with the EPA Stockpiling Guideline.	Contractor Site Contamination Specialist

MITIGATION MEASURES	STAKEHOLDERS
<p>Litter:</p> <p>Provide covered waste or skip bins with clear instructional signage:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small bins are suitable for small rubbish like paper, food wrapping and drink containers that may be blown off site • Skips with a closable lid are suitable for larger items like cardboard boxes, plastic wrapping and polystyrene • Provide separate recycling bins for recyclable material • Arrange for an authorised contractor to collect skip bins to prevent overflow and transport to a site that is lawfully able to receive it <p>Ensure bin lids are closed and locked at the end of each day and during adverse weather conditions</p>	Contractor
<p>Excavated material:</p> <p>Where ever practicable, remove construction and demolition waste such as concrete, bricks, pipe and organic matter from or near excavated spoil material, to reduce likelihood of contamination.</p>	Contractor
<p>Where temporary toilet facilities are used, periodic inspections must be undertaken and a pump out schedule implemented and maintained as required.</p>	Contractor
<p>All washout and washdown areas must be treated as waste and must not be discharged onto land or into waters unless approval has been obtained. Any disposal into wastewater systems must be approved by SA Water.</p>	Contractor
<p>All waste that is removed from site must be taken to a location lawfully able to take that waste, which may include waste and resource recovery facilities and landfills.</p>	Contractor
<p>Maintain waste records in line with site-specific agreements or licence conditions, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Location, type and quantity of waste generated onsite • Date, type and quantity of waste transported and received <p>Waste receipts from the lawful place to which waste was taken to</p>	Contractor
<p>All waste records must be provided to SA Water according to an agreed schedule in a format approved by SA Water.</p>	Contractor
<p>Municipal solid wastes, commercial and industrial waste, and construction and demolition waste (mixed) and e-waste must be stored undercover, enclosed (with appropriate ventilation) on a sealed and bunded surface while awaiting processing or transfer.</p>	Contractor
<p>Materials with a potential to produce leachate and contaminated runoff should be stored in line with the EPA Guideline on Bunding and Spill Management</p>	Contractor

2.4 Monitoring requirements

DESCRIPTION	METRIC	FREQUENCY	ACCOUNTABILITY
Waste management onsite	Visual observations	Daily	Contractor
Creation, movement and disposal of waste types and volumes monitored and reported	Waste records	As per agreed schedule	Contractor
Data and evidence of adoption of the waste hierarchy	Waste records	As per agreed schedule	Contractor