

*Environment Protection Act 1970***INDUSTRIAL WASTE MANAGEMENT
POLICY (WASTE MINIMISATION)**

The Governor in Council on the recommendation of the Environment Protection Authority, declares that the Industrial Waste Management Policy (Waste Minimisation) as formulated under section 16 (1A) of the *Environment Protection Act 1970*, will come into effect as and from 1 November 1990.

Dated 23 October 1990

Responsible Minister:

ANDREW McCUTCHEON

Minister for Planning and Urban Growth

JILL BRENNAN

Acting Clerk of the Executive Council

**INDUSTRIAL WASTE MANAGEMENT
POLICY****WASTE MINIMISATION**

1. This order may be cited as the Industrial Waste Management (Waste Minimisation) Policy, and will come into operation on 1 November 1990.

2. This Policy is divided into parts as follows:

Part 1 - Preliminary

Part 2 - Objectives and Principles

Part 3 - Attainment Program

Part 4 - Review of Effectiveness

Part 5 - Definitions.

PART 1 - PRELIMINARY

3. In this Policy, unless inconsistent with the context or subject matter, the definitions contained in Part 5 of this Policy shall apply.

Application of the Policy

4. This Policy applies to all premises in the State of Victoria at which industrial waste is generated, stored, reprocessed, treated or disposed of. This includes industrial waste which may be discharged to the land, air or water environments, discharged to sewer, transported off-site, or stored prior to disposal or treatment.

5. The Policy applies to all premises whether or not they are scheduled under the Act.

6. Waste minimisation should be practiced at all stages of the industrial cycle, but the Policy focuses on avoiding the production of waste rather than on the control of emissions or discharges.

7. This Policy applies to industrial wastes, accepted by sewerage authorities for treatment or disposal, but would not be applied to sewage of domestic origin.

Implementation of the Policy

8. The Authority, and other agencies as appropriate, will actively promote the goal of waste minimisation and encourage a co-operative approach involving industry, the workforce and the community to achieve the objectives of this Policy.

9. All State Government departments, instrumentalities and agencies must implement this Policy where it relates to their powers, duties and responsibilities.

10. The Authority will implement this Policy through the exercise of its statutory powers, including the issue of works approvals, licences and notices. The Authority may initiate, participate in and co-ordinate other programs to attain and maintain Policy objectives.

11. Statutory authorities and statutory corporations which receive and treat industrial waste must implement this Policy through waste disposal agreements, through charges for

waste facilities and through other programs described in the Policy.

12. Waste generators and operators of private waste facilities will be required to comply with rules made under this Policy and in addition will be encouraged by the Authority to adopt waste management practices and charging practices consistent with the waste minimisation objective.

13. The Authority will seek to co-operation of industry in developing long-term waste minimisation strategies and codes of practice and in introducing self auditing procedures.

Review of the Policy

14. This Policy will remain in force for ten years, from the date of proclamation, unless revised in the interim.

PART 2 - OBJECTIVES AND PRINCIPLES

Objectives

15. The primary objective of this Policy is to reduce potential hazards to human health and to the environment posed by industrial wastes, by ensuring that the generation of such wastes is minimised.

16. Secondary objectives, where not inconsistent with the primary objective of reducing adverse environmental effects are:

- promotion of more efficient use and conservation of resources, particularly non-renewable resources;
- reduction in the need for waste treatment facilities and in overall waste disposal costs;
- reduction in inspection and enforcement costs;
- improved cost efficiency within industry, through reduced waste disposal and raw materials costs.

Principles

17. The Authority will facilitate the adoption of an integrated approach to the management of industrial waste, which will encompass all aspects of waste generation, storage, treatment, transport and disposal.

18. In assessing waste management options, the Authority will adopt the following order of preference:

- (a) waste avoidance and/or waste reduction;
- (b) waste reuse, recycling, and reclamation;

(c) waste treatment;

(d) waste disposal.

19. Waste minimisation options for new industrial projects or works should be addressed by industry and government agencies as early as possible, preferably during the project planning and design stages.

20. The 'polluter pays principle' will be applied to waste generation, treatment and disposal. Waste generators, treaters or users must take responsibility for the costs of avoiding environmental damage resulting from their activities and for the costs of repairing any current or future environmental degradation.

21. The 'user pays principle' will be applied to waste generation, treatment and disposal. To the extent practicable, this will involve full recovery of both fixed and variable costs incurred in the receipt, conveyance, treatment and disposal of waste.

22. Protection of the environment requires the application of appropriate technologies, bearing in mind the environmental hazard of the waste produced and the difficulty of treatment.

PART 3 - ATTAINMENT PROGRAM

Waste Audits and Waste Management Plans

23. The Authority will promote waste minimisation by encouraging the use of waste audits and the development of waste management plans. The Authority will work with industry and with other interested parties to develop and publish guidelines for preparation of waste audits and waste management plans.

24. Applicants for works approval and where appropriate, applicants for licences or licence amendments under the Act, must provide a waste management plan identifying waste minimisation options, including options for minimising the discharge of industrial wastes to sewer.

25. Where necessary, the Authority may require occupiers of industrial premises which generate prescribed industrial wastes, to prepare a waste management plan or to undertake a waste audit. These must be prepared in such a form, or in such period, as may be specified in a notice to the occupier of the premises.

26. The Authority may require occupiers of premises subject to a Pollution Abatement Notice or an Abatement Notice to provide waste management plans or to undertake waste audits, or both, as a condition of the notice, for any sources of waste specified in that notice.

27. Sewerage Authorities which receive industrial wastes for treatment or disposal should, where practicable, require waste dischargers to prepare waste management plans or waste audits.

28. Where an applicant for works approval or licence is a sewerage authority, or the occupier of a schedule 4 premises or premises treating or disposing of waste, the Authority may, where practicable, require information to be provided on the waste minimisation options available to the generators of industrial wastes.

Appropriate Technology

29. The minimum acceptable level of waste minimisation technology to be applied in any premises where a new or substantially modified industrial process or works is to be installed, which generates or will generate industrial waste to be discharged to air, land, water or sewer, will be that which is commonly available and is appropriate to the industry or the particular type of waste.

30. Particular emphasis must be placed on minimising generation of wastes regarded as having a high potential to cause environmental damage. Such wastes are designated as Priority Wastes and are listed in Schedule A to this Policy.

31. The occupiers of any premises installing new or substantially modified industrial process or works which generate or will generate, waste containing any of the substances listed in Schedule A, must apply the best available technology to minimise the generation of that waste and consequently to minimise the need to discharge waste to air, water, land, or sewer, or to transport waste off site for treatment, storage or disposal.

32. In particular cases industries, trades or waste generating activities may be required to comply with waste minimisation requirements specified in any Schedule to this Policy, or in Codes of Practice adopted by the Authority in accordance with the Act.

33. More stringent controls than those prescribed in Clauses 30, 31, 32 or 33, or in schedules to the Policy may be applied if

necessary to meet policy objectives, or if local environmental conditions require a higher level of protection.

34. The Authority may refuse to deal with a works approval or licence application which does not address waste minimisation options; and must ensure that any works approval, licence, or licence amendment, which is granted is consistent with this Policy, and meets appropriate technology standards. The Authority may reject any application for licence or works approval which is not consistent with the Policy.

35. When negotiating new agreements for the discharge of wastes to sewer from premises which have installed either new or substantially modified processes or works, the sewerage authorities to the extent practicable, should only accept waste from premises which have installed new or substantially modified processes or works, where the new processes or works achieve a degree of waste minimisation consistent with the requirements of this Policy.

36. Existing licences under the Act and agreements with sewerage authorities for the treatment or disposal of industrial wastes may be amended as soon as practicable, to ensure compliance with the Policy objectives.

37. Where a person, company or industry continues to generate unnecessarily high levels of waste considered by the Authority to pose potential or actual hazard to the environment, the Authority may issue a Pollution Abatement Notice or where applicable, an Abatement Notice requiring reduction of the quantity or hazard of the waste.

Waste Treatment and Disposal

38. Charges for waste treatment or disposal through Government waste treatment facilities, or through a sewerage system should be set at levels reflecting the full cost of the treatment and disposal of that waste.

39. Occupiers of private treatment facilities will be encouraged to adopt a charging policy which achieves full cost recovery, including recovery of those costs associated with ensuring that all wastes are handled in an environmentally acceptable manner and the costs of any financial assurance required under the Act.

40. The Authority will ensure that all waste treatment or disposal facilities are managed in

an appropriate manner, so that there is no undue risk of environmental contamination, either in the short or longer term.

Incentives

41. The Authority may provide financial assistance for industrial waste minimisation research and development and for the installation of waste reducing technologies.

42. When assessing requests for financial support, other government agencies which provide financial assistance for industrial projects will be encouraged to consider the extent to which waste minimisation objectives will be achieved, amongst their evaluation criteria.

Education And Support Services

43. The Authority will provide an effective industrial waste exchange referral service.

44. The Authority will provide advice and information on options for industrial waste minimisation to those organisations seeking to introduce new industrial processes or to upgrade existing processes.

45. Where government agencies provide advisory and extension services to industry, these services will be encouraged to include and promote waste minimisation.

46. The Authority in conjunction with other government agencies and industry groups, will undertake an education program to promote the concept of waste minimisation and to inform industry and the public of the need for and benefits of industrial waste minimisation. Industry associations will be encouraged to assist in this work.

47. The Authority will actively seek national involvement and co-operation in the promotion of waste minimisation.

48. The Authority will provide and maintain a library and technical resource based on industrial waste minimisation procedures and practices.

49. The Authority will establish or promote means for recognising and publicising significant industrial waste minimisation achievements in the private and public sectors.

PART 4 - REVIEWING EFFECTIVENESS

50. Information from the following sources will be used in assessing the effectiveness of the Policy:

- waste transport certificates;
- annual returns submitted by industry;

- information on industrial waste discharges provided by sewerage authorities;
- data from licences and works approvals;
- surveys of waste generation rates in Victoria.

51. The Authority will monitor changes in the volumes of different types of wastes being generated, reused, recycled and disposed of, and of the proportion of firms in industries generating priority wastes which have approved waste management plans and/or audits; and will from time to time publish this information.

52. In co-operation with industry associations, targets for waste reduction within specific industry sectors will be established. Progress made towards meeting these targets will be regularly reviewed and will assist in evaluating the success of the waste minimisation initiatives.

53. The Authority will document and report regularly on achievements and advances in industrial waste minimisation.

PART 5 - DEFINITIONS

54. In this Policy:

'Abatement notice' means an abatement notice issued under s.28B of the Act and refers to premises from which wastes are discharged to sewers or sent to treatment works operated by sewerage authorities.

'Act' means the Environment Protection Act 1970 as amended.

'Authority' means the Environment Protection Authority constituted under the Act.

'Best available technology' means techniques, methods or processes which generate the minimum waste per unit of output, equivalent to that which is achievable by proven, viable and commercially available techniques, methods, processes or practices.

'Code of Practice' means a code of practice adopted by the Authority in accordance with s.72 of the Act.

'Commonly Available Technology' means modern techniques, methods or processes as commonly used in any particular industry.

'Industrial Waste' means industrial waste as defined in the Act.

'Licence' means a licence under the Act.

'Pollution Abatement Notice' means a pollution abatement notice under s.31A of the Act.

'Priority Waste' means a substance designated to be a priority waste in Schedule A of this Policy.

'Regulation' means a regulation made under the Act.

'Sewerage Authority' means a sewerage authority as defined in s.28A of the Act.

'Waste' means any matter prescribed under the Act to be waste.

'Waste Audit' means a procedure to identify sources, types and quantities of waste generated, carried out in accordance with guidelines prepared by the Authority from time to time.

'Waste Management Plan' means a plan covering all aspects of the management of wastes, and which identifies options for waste minimisation and for the handling, storage, treatment and disposal of wastes. These plans should conform to guidelines issued by the Authority.

'Waste Minimisation' means the adoption of practices or processes which reduce to the maximum extent feasible the quantity of industrial waste generated and/or the quantity of waste which requires subsequent treatment, storage or disposal. It includes any activity undertaken on-site by a generator that results in the reduction of total volume or quantity of industrial waste provided that such reduction is not achieved simply by dewatering or compaction.

SCHEDULE A

Priority Wastes

- Arsenic and its compounds;
- Acrylonitrile;
- Benzene;
- Cadmium and its compounds;
- Chlorinated Hydrocarbons;
- Chromium and its compounds;
- Copper and its compounds;
- Lead and its compounds;
- Mercury and its compounds;
- Nickel and its compounds;
- Organo Tin and its compounds.

- Ozone depleting substances;
- Photochemically active organic substances;
- Polychlorinated or polybrominated biphenyls or related substances or equipment containing polychlorinated or polybrominated biphenyls or related substances;
- Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons;
- Vinyl chloride monomer.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

This policy establishes a framework which will promote the adoption by industry of processes, practices and technologies which will minimise the generation of industrial waste.

The policy is an Industrial Waste Management Policy prepared by the Authority under Sections 16, 17 and 18 of the Environment Protection Act. Its aim is to reduce the adverse impact on the environment of the disposal of industrial waste, by promoting practices which ensure a reduction in the amounts of waste requiring disposal.

Although some treatment and disposal will always be necessary in managing wastes, preference should be given to waste minimisation strategies. Treatment and disposal should only be addressed after all practicable minimisation options have been exhausted. This approach was outlined in the Victorian Government's Industrial Waste Strategy (1986).

Notes on specific clauses:

Clause 1

Policies are declared by Order of the Governor-in-Council on the recommendation of the Environment Protection Authority under the provisions of the Environment Protection Act (1970). The Authority makes such recommendation after the proposed Policy has been subject to public review and comment. Policies may be amended by Order of the Governor-in-Council, on the recommendation of the Authority.

Clause 2

Divides the Policy into four parts.

Clause 3

Refers to Definitions contained in Part 5.

Part 1: Preliminary

Application

Clause 4

This clause outlines the types of wastes covered by the Policy. Essentially, these are all industrial wastes generated by private and public sector industries and which are currently discharged to any segment of the environment (air, land, water or sewer) or stored prior to treatment or disposal. It is stressed that wastes discharged to sewer are covered by the Policy.

Clause 5

This clause indicates that the Policy applies to all premises generating industrial wastes, not just to those which are subject to the Authority licensing and works approval procedures.

Clause 6

The focus of the Policy is on processes which generate waste, not upon end of pipe emission controls. Standards are set for waste minimisation processes not for emission levels. Waste management options which simply vary the medium of discharge (eg. converting an air emission to a sludge) or waste treatment procedures which render waste less hazardous to the environment, would not normally be regarded as waste minimisation practices.

Clause 7

It is made clear that the Policy does not apply to domestic sewage.

Implementation

Clause 8

This clause commits State Government Agencies to promoting the goal of waste minimisation through community education and advice to industry. The development of a co-operative approach involving government agencies, industry associations, individual companies, the workforce, community organisations and individuals is seen as central to the implementation of this Policy. Each will have a particular role in promoting the philosophy, objectives and practice of waste minimisation.

Clause 9

The Authority will have the major role in implementing this Policy however, in addition this clause extends the responsibility for incorporating waste minimisation strategies to all Victorian Government bodies. Under this

clause all such bodies will be expected to implement the waste minimisation policy whenever it is relevant to their functions and powers. Such functions need not always be directly related to waste generation, but might have peripheral relevance such as in providing loans, grants or services. Those agencies whose functions, duties and responsibilities are affected by the Policy's specific requirements will have a more significant role in implementing the Policy.

Clause 10

This clause defines the key role to be played by the Authority in implementing the Policy.

Clause 11

This clause defines the role of statutory authorities which receive or treat wastes. The Board of Works and other sewerage authorities must implement the Policy through their charging policy and through industrial waste agreements to ensure that as far as possible waste minimisation objectives are achieved.

Clause 12

This clause outlines the responsibilities and obligations of waste generators and waste treaters.

Clause 13

This clause highlights the key role which must be played by industry if waste minimisation objectives are to be achieved and stresses the role of the Authority in encouraging such industry involvement.

Review of the Policy

Clause 14

This clause sets the effective operating time of this Policy as ten years, with possible reviews prior to this time. This allows the Policy to be updated when required.

Part 2: Objectives and Principles

Objectives

Clause 15

The objectives as stated in the Policy are based on environmental protection. Hazards to human health and adverse effects of pollution of the environment can result from industrial waste emissions, whether these are to air, water or land. Reducing the total amount of waste entering the environment has the benefit of reducing the load that the environment needs to assimilate, and hence

lessens the potentially adverse impact upon human health or the environment.

consultants who assist in the design and installation of industrial plants.

Clause 16

Clause 20

There are a number of broad economic benefits which may flow from waste minimisation including resource conservation, reduced monitoring and enforcement costs and reduced infrastructure costs. For industry there are often specific cost advantages resulting from lower demand for raw materials and reduced waste disposal and treatment costs, together with less tangible benefits stemming from productivity improvement, better quality control and improved occupational health and safety.

The 'polluter pays' principle is a key principle of environmental management and has been accepted in the State Conservation Strategy. Fundamental to this principle is a requirement that those who generate or handle polluting or potentially polluting material should be responsible for all costs incurred as a result of accident or long-term waste emissions. This would include direct clean up costs as well as compensation for any damage to persons or property. Polluters should, moreover, be responsible for costs of pollution prevention, whether such costs are direct capital costs of pollution abatement measure or less direct costs associated with monitoring, enforcement or regulation. (These less direct costs are generally recovered through the fees and charges levied on waste emitters.)

Principles

Clause 17

This clause restates the concept of 'cradle to grave' waste management, fundamental to the Victorian Industrial Waste Strategy.

Clause 21

Clause 18

This clause commits the Authority to applying the preferred order of waste management set out in the Industrial Waste Strategy. Accordingly, when selecting strategies for waste management, the first options assessed must be those which minimise the quantity of waste generated. Approaches involving waste avoidance or waste reduction are therefore options of first choice. Recycling, direct reuse of materials or reclamation of usable portions of waste materials should be introduced wherever practicable, although not at the expense of avoidance or reduction. Waste treatment to reduce hazard or nuisance should be undertaken wherever feasible, preferably at the site of generation. Disposal should be the option of last resort.

This clause adopts the related 'user pays principle' to ensure that all identifiable costs associated with the treatment and disposal of wastes are included in charges levied by operators of waste treatment and disposal facilities. This is to ensure that waste minimisation is not discouraged by the availability of artificially low treatment and disposal charges. However, there will be special cases (eg. emergencies) where requiring 'user pays' charges are not practical. Similarly, there should be overall cost recovery but operators of waste treatment facilities will have discretion about the means by which such cost recovery is achieved.

Clause 19

Waste minimisation principles should be introduced as early as possible in the planning and design stage of industrial processes, preferably before industrial plant design is completed. A high level of awareness of waste minimisation principles and practice is therefore needed by waste generators and more particularly by those specialist

Clause 22

The concept of requiring technological standards appropriate to the waste stream or process is introduced. Included in the Environment Protection Act and in other relevant the Authority Policies, reference is made to 'best available control technology' and to 'commonly available control technology'. These concepts are used to define the level of control technology used or required in particular situations. Waste minimisation is not simply about waste control and therefore, the terms 'best available technology' and 'commonly available technology' are used in this Policy.

Part 3: Attainment Program

Waste Audit and Waste Management Plans

Clause 23

Waste Audits and Waste Management Plans are important tools for promoting and implementing waste minimisation. 'Waste Audit' describes a procedure undertaken, usually by a company, to identify the quantities, types and sources of waste generated, and to identify options for waste minimisation. Such waste audits will involve a close examination of the nature and volume of industrial wastes produced and of the processes which generate such wastes. It can be likened to an energy audit which many companies undertake to identify the energy consumption of their manufacturing processes. 'Waste Management Plans' provide the basis for the proper management, handling and disposal of waste with particular emphasis on waste minimisation. Waste management plans will include but need not be limited to, evaluation of options for waste minimisation, storage, treatment, transport and disposal of industrial waste. It will be the responsibility of the waste producer to prepare and update such plans. The Authority, in co-operation with industry, will prepare guidelines for undertaking waste audits and for the preparation of waste management plans.

Clause 24

This clause requires that occupiers of premises scheduled under the Environment Protection Act, proposing to modify existing works or construct new works, supply the Authority with information on the waste minimisation options pertinent to the proposed works. Similarly, most premises which generate waste emissions to air, land or water, require a licence from the Authority. These may be varied by the Authority. Any applicants for new licences or for variation of licence conditions may need to supply information or waste minimisation options. The clause empowers the Authority to reject applications for works approvals or licences where it is not satisfied that waste minimisation options have been addressed. Significantly, the clause requires minimisation of all waste, including those discharged to sewer to be considered.

Clause 25

This clause empowers the Authority to require that waste audits and waste

management plans be prepared by specified waste generators. It is intended that a selective approach would be adopted in requiring such audits so that only waste streams which pose particular environmental hazards would be targeted. Organisations most likely to be subject to such a request include:

- generators of industrial waste which is regarded as having potential to cause significant adverse environmental effects;
- generators of large volumes of waste, particularly where access to suitable treatment facilities, is difficult;
- generators, users, handlers, storers, or transporters of wastes containing substances listed in Schedule A Priority Wastes);
- generators, users, or storers of notifiable chemicals.

Clauses 26 and 27

These clauses allow the Authority to require waste audits and waste management plans as a condition of a licence, a Pollution Abatement Notice (PAN) or an Abatement Notice on a premises discharging to sewer. They require sewerage authorities to seek waste audits or waste management plans from dischargers of industrial waste wherever practicable. These should focus particularly on the sources, loads and treatment of priority wastes.

Clause 28

This empowers the Authority to require sewerage authorities or waste treaters to supply information on waste minimisation options available to those clients wishing to utilise their facilities wherever practicable. It is recognised that any sewerage authorities may not have access to such information, nor ability to require it to be provided by clients.

Appropriate Technology

Clause 29

This clause specifies that the minimum acceptable level of technology for any process generating waste will be that which is commonly available within industry (i.e. commonly available technology, CAT). Such technology will normally be made mandatory in cases of new or upgraded processes requiring works approvals or licence amendments. 'Commonly available technology' is regarded as waste minimising technology which is quite readily available within an industry. This

applies to all waste whether discharged to air, water, land or sewer.

Clause 30

Wastes have been identified as priority wastes because: (i) adequate treatment facilities are not readily available, or (ii) they are known to be acutely toxic, or (iii) they are known to be persistent in the environment and to have potential for bioaccumulation, or (iv) they are known to be mutagenic teratogenic or carcinogenic, or (v) they can contribute to significant secondary environmental problems such as photochemical smog or ozone depletion. Wastes listed in Schedule A are considered to have one or more of these properties.

Clause 31

This clause specifies a higher level of waste minimisation technology where priority wastes are involved. This reflects the increased environmental hazard of such wastes. In such cases the application of Best Available Technology (BAT is mandatory for new or upgraded processes requiring works approval or licence amendment.) 'Best available technology' is considered to be techniques, processes, methods or practices which reduce waste streams as far as is commercially achievable. Both Australian and overseas experience must be used in assessing whether proposed processes are the best available for minimising the waste from any industrial process. This applies to all proposed waste disposal routes, including discharge to sewer, emissions to air, water or land, and off site transport for treatment and disposal.

Clause 32

This clause allows the Authority to specify the nature of technology to be implemented for particular industries and would allow specific technologies to be required. These would be incorporated into the Policy as schedules or could be prepared as Codes of Practice under Section 72 of the Act. This would apply where there are specific waste minimisation practices which should be adopted throughout one industry. Such codes would normally be drafted in consultation with the relevant industry groups and would generally incorporate targets to waste reduction.

Clause 33

This clause allows the Authority to use its discretion as to the appropriate waste

minimisation technology to be introduced, where particular environmental sensitivity is expected or where a waste - while not a priority waste - is still considered especially hazardous.

Clause 34

In assessing works approvals, the Authority will consider waste minimisation and may require proponents to adopt process options and waste minimisation technology, consistent with this Policy. The Authority must also take into account any information supplied under waste audits or waste management plans. This clause establishes conditions for breach of Policy with respect to appropriate technologies.

Clause 35

The great majority of industrial waste is discharged as industrial waste to the sewerage systems. It must be recognised that even after treatment, most industrial waste ultimately reaches the environment, being discharged to land or water. It is essential therefore, that waste minimisation principles and practices be applied to these sources of waste, if there is to be a significant reduction in the amount of waste generated. This clause therefore makes it a requirement that sewerage authorities negotiating new agreements for treatment of industrial waste should, as far as practicable, ensure the application of CAT or BAT to sources of waste. To facilitate implementation of this and related clauses, the Authority will establish a Waste Minimisation Consultative Committee with representatives from all major water boards receiving trade wastes to advise the Authority on priorities for waste minimisation action and to identify appropriate technologies.

Clause 36

This clause gives the Authority and sewerage authorities discretion to amend licences to ensure compliance with the Policy and to require the application of BAT or CAT.

Clause 37

The Authority serves a Pollution Abatement Notice (PAN) or an Abatement Notice on a company when pollution has occurred or when there is potential for pollution to occur. The company must take the actions specified in the PAN to clean up the pollution and prevent further pollution. This clause will enable the introduction of waste minimising technology to

be specified as a condition in a PAN or Abatement Notice.

Waste Treatment and Disposal Costs

Clauses 38 and 39

These clauses encourage the application of the 'user pays' principle. Implementation of the user pays principle is a particularly important means of ensuring that waste is not generated unnecessarily. For this reason both government and private industrial waste treaters should ensure that waste generators pay the full cost of the treatment and disposal of their own waste streams. Charges should reflect the difficulty of treatment and disposal. It is intended to ensure that the full cost of waste treatment is charged at Government industrial waste treatment facilities. The costs which need to be borne by users include not just the operational cost of disposal and treatment but also the costs of building facilities. An allowance for the external effects of waste disposal, i.e. the damage caused by pollution (or potential damage), should also be incorporated into these charges if they are quantifiable.

Clause 40

It is not possible for the Policy to dictate the fees and costs charged by the private sector. However, it is intended to ensure that private treatment facilities operate in an environmentally sound manner. It is assumed that costs associated with maintaining facilities will be passed on to the consumers (i.e. the waste generator).

Incentives

Clause 41

This clause highlights the intention to use non-regulatory measures, which may include financial incentives to promote waste minimisation.

Clause 42

This clause highlights the role of other government agencies in promoting waste minimisation through financial incentives or other non-regulatory measures.

Education and Support Services

Clause 43

An industrial waste exchange is a service which provides information about waste materials to potential users. Waste generators supply information on availability of wastes, specifying the type of material and quantities

available. People with a requirement for waste materials also supply information on what they require. This information is collected and disseminated among waste producers who are then put into contact with potential waste users, thereby promoting recycling and reducing waste disposal requirements.

Clause 44

This commits the Authority to providing advice and information on options for waste minimisation. This will be particularly important if smaller companies, which often do not have the expertise or staff resources to have access to expert advice on waste minimisation options.

Clause 45

Government advisory services, in particular those dealing with industry, should promote waste minimisation.

Clause 46

An effective education program will be vital in the successful promotion of the waste minimisation philosophy.

Clause 47

This clause highlights the need for an effective national approach to waste minimisation.

Clause 48

The Authority will as a matter of course, develop expertise on a wide range of waste minimisation technologies and strategies and this will include collection of an extensive information base.

Clause 49

There are many possible mechanisms for promoting and publicising waste minimisation achievements. These could include publicly visible awards for a company's achievements, or less formal promotional activities designed to publicise the achievements of a particular industry or firm. Such schemes may be developed in co-operation with industry associations.

Part 4: Reviewing Effectiveness of the Policy

Clause 50

This clause establishes appropriate indicators against which the effectiveness of this Policy's implementation may be evaluated.

Clause 51

This clause indicates the manner in which data will be evaluated and the results disseminated.

Clause 52

Carefully chosen targets will be established to help in the assessment of progress towards waste minimisation practices. Clearly established goals will help to stimulate interest in, and application of, waste minimisation.

Clause 53

This clause recognises the need for regular reporting on the effectiveness of Policy measures. Such reports will form the basis of a review of the Policy.

Part 5: Definitions

Clause 54

This clause defines the terms used in the Policy.

Schedule A

This schedule defines "Priority waste"

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