



18 September 2019

The Honourable Matt Kean MP  
Minister for Energy and Environment  
[20yws@dpie.nsw.gov.au](mailto:20yws@dpie.nsw.gov.au)

Dear Minister Kean,

**RE: 20-year Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy**

***Please note that due to time constraints there has not been time for this submission to be formally endorsed by Councillors prior to the submission deadline. As such this submission must be considered a draft submission until it has been formally endorsed by Council. It is anticipated that Council will consider and endorse this submission in late October 2019 and we will formally advise The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment if this submission has been formally endorsed.***

Thank you for the opportunity to provide Sutherland Council's perspectives regarding the NSW waste and resource recovery industry.

Sutherland Shire Council strongly supports the development of a 20-year Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy (20YWS) for NSW that includes vision, commitment and investment by the NSW Government.

Sutherland Shire Council sees the following problems facing the NSW waste system:

- Lack of significant waste infrastructure to process recyclable material onshore.
- Uncertainty around policy and regulation and perceived lack of commitment from State and Federal Government to encourage resource recovery and materials re-use such as organics recovery and Energy from Waste.
- Lack of investment in innovation and building a market for recycled output that would encourage a transition to a circular economy.

Reform options the 20YWS could deliver:

- Prioritise investing in and developing the waste infrastructure needed to meet the needs of NSW waste and resource recovery targets.
- Urgently invest in onshore reprocessing and recovery of recyclable materials.
- Re-invest NSW waste levy revenue into the waste industry to fund a transition to a circular economy.
- Ensure coordinated commitment from all relevant government departments and co-design the Strategy with key stakeholders, including Councils.
- Develop National industry standards for use of recycled/reprocessed/recovered products to help develop the domestic market (such as organics outputs and Refuse Derived Fuel).

Sutherland Shire Council also supports the submission made by The Southern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (SSROC) in this matter.

Sutherland Shire Council looks forward to further targeted engagement with The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) regarding priority problems and solutions identified through this consultation and the ensuing issues paper about the 20YWS and accompanying policies.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tegan Yasserie', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Tegan Yasserie  
Policy & Strategy Officer - Waste