



Bushfire Recovery Program for Council Landfills

Offsetting the impacts of bushfire waste on council landfills

Program description

This program will support councils in their recovery from the 2019–20 bushfires by:

- assessing the impacts that disposing of bushfire waste has had on their landfills
- developing recommendations for how to offset those impacts to secure and enhance waste services
- funding landfill infrastructure projects to offset the impacts. Examples of such projects are landfill upgrades, increased operational controls and site improvements.

Eligibility

Any NSW council that has disposed of waste generated by the 2019–20 bushfires at its landfill.

Program details

Phase 1

Phase 1 of the program provides councils with an experienced consultant to assess and report on how Council has been affected by the need to dispose of bushfire waste at its landfill.

Impact assessments will consider landfill capacity as well as financial, infrastructure, resourcing and other impacts experienced by councils as a result of disposing of bushfire waste at their landfills. The impact assessments will also provide recommendations to offset impacts and project ideas for funding in Phase 2 of the program.



Phase 2

Phase 2 of the program provides funding for landfill infrastructure projects to offset impacts caused by disposing of bushfire waste. Projects can be diverse but must focus on improving landfill infrastructure.

Funding is contestable and applications will be reviewed by a technical review committee against set criteria.

Councils must participate in Phase 1 of the program to be eligible for funding, and they can apply for more than one project (via separate applications).

How to apply

Phase 1

Councils must opt in to the program by emailing bushfirerecovery.programs@epa.nsw.gov.au before 5pm on Monday 1 February 2021.

Emails should indicate interest in joining the program, confirm that the landfill has accepted bushfire waste and provide council contact details. The EPA will follow up with each council that opts in to match it with a consultant who will carry out the impact assessment.

Impact assessments are expected to be completed by Thursday 1 April 2021 and provided to both Council and the EPA.

Phase 2

Applications for funding will open on Tuesday 6 April 2021 and remain open until 30 June 2021.

Councils can apply for funding via SmartyGrants. A direct link to application pages will be provided on the EPA website when applications open on 6 April 2021.

Funding will be awarded in two payments from August 2021. Projects do not have to be completed in this timeframe.

Timeline

- Phase 1 opt in closes Monday 1 February 2021
- Impact assessments completed 1 April 2021
- Phase 2 applications open 6 April 2021
- Phase 2 applications close 30 June 2021
- Funding awarded from August 2021

Key Contacts

Please find all details at:
<https://epa.nsw.gov.au/working-together/grants/bushfire-recovery-programs/council-landfills>.

For more information, call 131 555 or email bushfirerecovery.programs@epa.nsw.gov.au

Photo

Epicormic growth on a Eucalypt; Photo: Tim Johnson/DPIE

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