



Rob Stokes MP

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MEDIA RELEASE

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HOUSEHOLD ASBESTOS DISPOSAL TRIAL FROM JULY

Environment Minister Rob Stokes today announced that the NSW EPA will begin a trial of the Householders' Asbestos Disposal Scheme during July in 24 councils.

Rob Stokes said the scheme will trial cheaper and easier disposal for small amounts of wrapped bonded asbestos from home renovators.

"The limit for an individual under the asbestos trial scheme is 5 tonnes and is based on the average house in Western Sydney built in the 1950's having 4 tonnes of asbestos," Rob Stokes said.

Starting on July 1:

- Kempsey; Shoalhaven; Wagga Wagga; and
- North East Waste including: Ballina; Byron; Clarence Valley; Kyogle; Lismore; Richmond Valley; and Tweed.

Due to commence by the end of July:

- Kogarah, Rockdale, Hurstville, Sutherland, Willoughby; and
- Western Sydney Group including: Auburn; Blacktown; Hawkesbury; Holroyd; Hills Shire; Liverpool; Parramatta; Penrith; and Fairfield.

"This scheme is part of the NSW Government's commitment to reduce illegal dumping and enhance waste services across NSW.

"The EPA funding will include an incentive of up to \$50 per tonne for registered residents who dispose of wrapped bonded asbestos at the nominated landfill.

"In addition, the NSW EPA will waive the waste levy on bonded asbestos disposed of in these trial areas to assess whether there is change in illegal dumping incidents.

"Illegal dumping is costly to clean up and potentially harmful to human health and the environment.

"This trial will assess how effective a more affordable and accessible asbestos disposal scheme will be in reducing instances of illegally dumped asbestos waste.

"Results will be independently analysed by research and evaluation experts to inform the NSW Government on the best approach to reduce the dumping of asbestos waste.

“This trial is funded by the EPA’s \$58 million commitment to reduce illegal dumping under the \$465 million *Waste Less, Recycle More* initiative and is one of 21 actions identified in the EPA’s Illegal Dumping Strategy.

“These councils will share in \$781,000 from the EPA’s Waste Less, Recycle More initiative to deliver the Householders Asbestos Disposal Scheme in their local government areas over the next 12 months.

“The trials will include participating landfills specified by councils as well as some SITA and Veolia sites.”

More information about the Householders' Asbestos Disposal Scheme is available at:
<http://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/waste/illegaldumpgrants.htm>