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MEDIA RELEASE

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AROUND \$1 MILLION IN GRANTS FOR RECYCLING NETWORKS

Seven environmental consultants have been awarded a share of around \$1 million in grant funds, allowing them to establish business networks across the state so businesses can identify recycling opportunities for each other's waste that otherwise would end up in landfill.

Environment Minister Mark Speakman said this exciting concept in waste management involves bringing businesses together to identify where one company's waste can be another's raw material.

"Too often recyclable waste ended up in landfill, which wastes resources and money spent on unnecessary landfilling charges.

"By helping businesses to identify waste circulation opportunities with other businesses, we are not only helping to save limited landfill space but are also enabling businesses to tap into a new recycling resource pool."

Round 2 *Circulate - Industrial Ecology* grants have the potential to divert almost 47,000 tonnes of waste from landfill over the course of the program, by tapping into recyclables including timber, organics, plastics and packaging that can be recycled into other products such as mulch, compost, animal bedding, refurbished timber pallets and new building products.

Mr Speakman said that the Environment Protection Authority estimated that up to 70 per cent of the waste that businesses send to landfill could be recycled.

"There is a huge untapped potential for businesses to improve recycling in NSW and that is why the NSW Government has committed \$35 million to the business recycling program. It all goes to show that one man's trash really is another man's treasure.

"With initiatives like *Circulate* we are making it easier and more efficient for businesses in NSW to recycle by connecting them with opportunities that they may not have previously known about."

The NSW Government's *Waste Less Recycle More* initiative is a five year \$465.7 million package to transform waste and recycling in NSW.

For more information about *Circulate* and other Business Recycling Programs visit the EPA website: <http://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/managewaste/industrial-ecology.htm>

Round 2 *Circulate* recipients are:

Recipient	Area of operation	Grant	Target waste
Edge Environment	Sydney Region: Sydney Metropolitan Area	\$182,000	Building Operation waste
WildBlue Global Consulting	Hunter Region: Central Coast, Newcastle and Hunter Areas	\$153,000	Wood & Pallets
Cross Connections Consulting	Hunter Region: Central Coast, Newcastle and Hunter Areas	\$150,400	Packaging & Logistics and Building Operation waste
Engenuity Solutions	South East Region: Wollongong, South East and South Coast Areas	\$147,482	Timber
Stephen Mitchell Associates	Sydney Region: Sydney Metropolitan Area	\$143,225	Timber
Edge Environment	Sydney Region: Sydney Metropolitan Area	\$110,000	Food Supply Chain waste
Advitech Pty Ltd	Murray Region: Murray and Murrumbidgee Areas	\$87,650	Plastics

