



Mark Speakman
Minister for the Environment

MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday, 15 March 2016

\$3 MILLION FOR COUNCILS TO IMPROVE LANDFILL MANAGEMENT

Environment Minister Mark Speakman today announced that 20 regional and rural councils would receive a share of almost \$3 million in grants to help their communities address environmental issues at local waste facilities.

The NSW Environmental Trust grants will fund 26 projects under the *Waste Less Recycle More* initiative's Landfill Consolidation and Environmental Improvement Program.

Mr Speakman said the funding would allow councils to improve signage and install litter prevention fencing and infrastructure to allow the separation of recyclable materials.

Funding also has been awarded to close and rehabilitate landfill sites that have long term legacy issues. The level of rehabilitation needed at a closed landfill depends on its future use. Rehabilitation programs will therefore differ from project to project.

"Sixty rural and regional waste sites are now being improved with the announcement of these second round grants" Mr Speakman said.

"Supporting regional communities to improve their waste management will help the government reach its target to divert 75 per cent of all waste from landfill by 2021.

"Today's announcement takes us another step closer to this goal and contributes to the long-term protection of our environment."

Other programs under the NSW government's \$465.7 million *Waste Less Recycle More* initiative are helping to keep waste out of landfill. These include funding extra council green bin kerbside collections and new infrastructure to process collected organics, and developing new markets for compost.

"NSW is leading the nation with the *Waste Less, Recycle More* initiative, which is the largest waste and recycling program in Australia," Mr Speakman said.

This is the second and final round of funding under this program – 22 councils received more than \$3 million in grants in round one.

For more information visit: <http://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/wastegrants/landfill.htm>