



Gabrielle Upton
Minister for the Environment

MEDIA RELEASE

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HAVE YOUR SAY ON STRATEGIES FOR A CLEANER NSW

The NSW Government has developed a statewide strategy to combat illegal dumping which includes a \$52 million compliance program to crack down on illegal asbestos disposal, illegal commercial operators and repeat offenders, Environment Minister Gabrielle Upton said today.

The \$65 million Illegal Dumping Strategy, open for comment, is funded over four years under the Government's \$337 million *Waste Less, Recycle More* initiative.

"Communities are fed up with illegal dumping. Illegal dumping puts people at risk, contaminates the environment and undermines legitimate recycling facilities. It also costs our community millions of dollars every year," Ms Upton said.

"This new strategy includes funding for preventative measures such as surveillance cameras and Regional Illegal Dumping squads as well as funding for clean-up operations.

"One in 10 NSW councils spend over \$500,000 a year preventing, monitoring and cleaning up incidences of illegal dumping."

The strategy will focus on improving evaluation and monitoring, clean up, regulation and enforcement, community education and awareness, collecting data for social research and prevention measures.

The NSW Government's Litter Prevention Strategy, also open for comment, sets out an anti-littering agenda across the state. Under the *Waste Less Recycle More* initiative, \$30 million has been allocated until 2020/21 for litter reduction programs.

The strategy outlines the programs, which will help meet the Premier's Priority of reducing litter volume by 40 per cent by 2020.

Consultation forums will be held during June and July in Sydney and regional NSW. Consultation closes at 5pm on 31 July.

To read and comment on the strategies go to www.epa.nsw.gov.au/illegaldumping/draft-illegal-dumping-strategy.htm and www.epa.nsw.gov.au/wastestrategy/litterstrategy.htm.