



Media Release

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Federal Government focus on NAWMA's best practice in resource recovery

The Northern Adelaide Waste Management Authority (NAWMA) has firmly established its standing as a national best practice centre of recycling and resource recovery.

NAWMA today (Wednesday) hosted an official visit by the Federal Assistant Minister for Waste Reduction and Environmental Management, Trevor Evans, to showcase its benchmark waste diversion and recycling processes.

He inspected NAWMA's state-of-the-art material recovery facility at Edinburgh, which has been developed with funding support from Green Industries SA to expand the economic, social and environmental benefits of separating and regenerating recyclables into valuable new products.

As the regional subsidiary of the Cities of Playford and Salisbury and the Town of Gawler, NAWMA processes waste and recyclable products from about 25 per cent of residents in metropolitan Adelaide along with a number of regional council areas.

NAWMA Chair, Brian Cunningham, said the visit by Mr Evans was important recognition of the authority's commitment to 100 per cent onshore processing of kerbside collected recyclables by 2020.

"We welcome the recent announcement from the Council of Australian Governments where Prime Minister, Scott Morrison, effectively endorsed NAWMA's 100 per cent onshore model along with the proposal to ban exportation of recyclables as soon as practicable," Mr Cunningham said.

"NAWMA was the first local government jurisdiction to publicly commit to keeping yellow bin recyclables in Australia in order to create new markets and jobs, and a secondary remanufacturing industry right here in South Australia.

“NAWMA is now separating about 21,000 tonnes of recyclables from the waste stream in the northern region of Adelaide and a further 30,000 tonnes from the broader South Australian community.

“Importantly, NAWMA is working with its owner Councils to develop policies to encourage the buy back of at least 50 per cent of recyclables for processing into content for roads, street furniture and other items in the northern region.

“This will pull through demand for goods made from recycled content and further boost jobs and economic activity in the region, while simultaneously reducing costs for ratepayers.

“We are proud of our achievements in environmental and social leadership in waste management and resource recovery, and as a major contributor to the circular economy by keeping valuable recyclable material in circulation to support local remanufacturing and jobs.

“NAWMA regularly welcomes overseas and national representatives from the waste management industry to inspect our outstanding facilities and services.

“Today’s visit by Mr Evans will help ensure he keeps abreast of best practice procedures in waste management and resource recovery.”

Interview:

Brian Cunningham is available for interview on 8259 2105 or 0414 970 008.