

Newsletter Issue 1 November 2007

Establishment of Association – Update

Thank you to all of our members who have shown their commitment and support to helping us establish this important industry association in the state, and I take great pleasure in informing you via this newsletter of our achievements over the past few months. The purpose of this newsletter it is to keep you all regularly informed and to exchange information on the activities of the association on matters of importance, trends and other advice relevant to our industry.

I would firstly like to express to Paul Haslam at Veolia Environmental on behalf of the Executive, the association's sincere thanks for being pivotal in leading the drive with other members of the founding executive team to establishing this important operator focussed association in Queensland, and also for being our inaugural President. Paul has recently accepted a Company transfer to New South Wales and whilst he's left the Queensland business environment I'm pleased to report he's still engaged in the Industry and will continue to assist wherever possible in the growth of the organisation to the future. I accepted a nomination to fill the President's role until such time as the association's articles are registered and a full new election of executive positions is held. I would expect this to take place sometime early in 08.

The future success of any association is pivotal on building partnerships between both our members and sponsors who supply the industry with the key services it requires.

I am pleased to inform you that **Volvo Truck and Bus Brisbane** has taken our first Platinum Sponsorship and **Blue Recruit Personnel, ASP Software Professionals, and MacDonald Johnston**, Gold Sponsorships. In the next newsletter these and other sponsors will be afforded the opportunity to introduce themselves and their companies, but more importantly share with the members key industry related issues they see as being pertinent to it and a sharing of ideas of how they will be assisting us in maintaining and growing the sector.

Unlike many industry organisations the executive has recognised the importance of resourcing the association with a dedicated paid position rather than rely on volunteers to manage the multitude of activities deemed important to be delivered to the members. As such it has appointed Benjas Pty Ltd, as the Associations Secretariat Company and Rick Ralph as Director of that company the associations part time Executive Director.

Rick has worked in the industry both within Australia and Internationally for more than 26 years. He brings a significant amount of expertise to the position having for 13 years worked with Comalco Aluminium, establishing the nationally successful 'Cash for Cans' program, a period at Brisbane City Council as Director of Waste, has owned his own MRF and recycling business in the state, was GM - Operations at the SWERF plant in Wollongong and more recently operates his own specialist waste consultancy. He will continue to operate his own consultancy but his principal role now is that of WCRAQ's Executive Director currently 3 days a week and dependent on the activity in the future may go to 5 days.

Our membership is steadily increasing and I'm pleased to report that we now have more than 30 separate companies committed to the organisation. To date our membership includes;

Veolia Environmental Services, Thiess Services, Ipswich Waste Services, Visy Recycling, Queensland Recycling, JJ Richards & Sons Pty Ltd, Kartaway Mini Skips, Transpacific Industries,(Cleanaway, National Landfill, Liquid Waste Business Units), M&M Quarries, Chip Tyre, Gold Coast Skips, S&J Australian Scrap Tyre Disposals, Sell & Parker, Handybins, Mansfield Skips, North End Recycling, Kennedy's Aged Timbers, Amcor Recycling, Remondis, Retrac Skips and Recycling, Gold Coast Skips, Sims Metal, Solo Resource Recovery, Sims Tyrecycle, Hassle Free Recycling, Smorgon Steel Recycling, Envirowaste & Civil Pty Ltd, Sulo, Gumdale Demolition, Magic Bins, JR Stephens & Sons, Cortek,

Association Activity

Over the past few months the executive, Rick as well as a number of operational staff from the members have been steadily getting actions underway.

Specifically we've met with a number of key State and Local government politicians and bureaucrats' including Minister Andrew McNamara, Mayor's Paul Pisasale at Ipswich, Ron Clarke at the Gold Coast, Senior Policy Advisors to the Minister of Infrastructure at the time and now Premier Anna Bligh and other Local Councillors.

Meetings have been conducted with the Industry Regulators and Policy section's at the EPA, now renamed Department of Sustainability, Climate Change and Innovation, Brisbane City Council's head of 'Planning' in addition to reps from the Brisbane City Council policy and waste contracts sections. The purpose of these meetings has been initially to introduce the association and our objectives but more

importantly to establish a working dialogue in resolving key industry concerns in relation to waste and recycling sector information.

The association last week established a quarterly EPA regulator / industry operator working group to build an understanding collectively of the issues we both have in operating across the South East part of the State, and we have also agreed to develop a waste and recycling collection code of conduct with the Brisbane City Council in conjunction with the Local Government Association of Queensland, the intention being to address inner city noise and core safety concerns now impacting our industry in the rapidly developing inner city precincts. This code will be the first of several we would like to develop with the membership, the intention being to showcase the professionalism and commitment our industry has in delivering core services to the community in Queensland.

Rick has had an initial discussion with the Australian Industry Group to determine a possible business arrangement with respect offering members assistance on Industrial Relations or other Legal service advice. More work still needs to be completed to deliver such arrangements and I will keep you informed of our activity with this.

He has also agreed with the members of the association on the Gold Coast to develop a local working group and has held during last month the first meeting at the offices of local coast member Jack Carter of Retrac Skips and Recycling. The next coast meeting will be held at M&M Quarries offices and an invitation will be extended to representatives from Council to meet with the group and set up a working dialogue to discuss regulatory matters of concern and similar work to that being done at BCC and elsewhere.

To the future

We intend maintaining the drive to capture a greater membership base and to now engage directly with the state in discussions to ensure that the operators of the industry have a strong voice and input to the currently developing waste strategy and potential impacts this may or may not have on our businesses and investments.

The Executive are meeting with the Department in November to discuss the paper and I will provide feedback and seek input from all members once we have more of an idea on the process at hand and timeframes and key issues to work to.

On Wednesday November 28, I would like extend an invitation all our members to attend an informal discussion at my offices, JJ Richards Offices, 3 Grant Street , Cleveland between 9.00 am and 12.00 noon. The intention of the meeting is to meet with the executive, Rick and myself and to have discussions as to future issues members consider the association should be looking at addressing that are key to our industry interests, as well as to discuss the latest with respect the Queensland Waste Strategy, and to meet with our partner Sponsors. Please let Rick know of your attendance details to assist with catering and other housekeeping matters.

Thanks for taking the time to read this our first association update, and I look forward to continuing to work with you on making the association an important and vital stakeholder on industry related issues in the state.

Phil Richards

President