



WASTE CONTRACTORS &
RECYCLERS ASSOCIATION
OF N.S.W

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To whom it may concern,

**Waste management and recycling is an essential service
Support letter for members to provide to regulators and emergency services**

It is important in these uncertain times that the collection, transport and disposal of waste & recyclables are not impeded. These services are "essential services" under the *Essential Services Act 1988* (NSW). The United Nations has also confirmed that waste management is an essential service necessary in order to minimise secondary impacts on the environment and health (UN Environmental Programme, 24 March 2020).

Everyone across our community is currently facing some very difficult & challenging public health issues. In the waste management industry, throughout this time (and as always) our Members are at the frontline of providing an essential service to householders and those businesses that continue to trade. Without the efforts of our Members and their wonderful workers, we would be faced with major health, hygiene and sanitation issues.

We ask that you have regard to the modern definition of our industry in the Waste Management Award 2010, which is as follows:

The collection, transportation, handling, recycling and disposal of any waste material whatsoever (be it solid or liquid, organic, biological, medical, raw or natural, wholly or partly manufactured, decomposed or partly decomposed or in any other state or form and including all domestic, trade and industrial waste) and includes the operation of transfer stations, landfill sites, incinerators, recycling depots, yards or terminals, treatment plants, compost facilities, alternative waste treatment facilities and the operation of other facilities of the same kind.

In closing, should you require any further details, or if we can assist, then please have your staff contact me.

Yours faithfully,

Tony Khoury
Executive Director