Environment Protection Act 1970
WASTE MANAGEMENT POLICY (COMBUSTIBLE RECYCLABLE AND WASTE MATERIALS)

Order in Council

The Governor in Council under section 16A(1) of the Environment Protection Act 1970, and on the recommendation of the Environment Protection Authority, declares the Waste Management Policy (Combustible Recyclable and Waste Materials) contained in the schedule to this Order.

Dated 28 August 2018

Responsible Minister:
HON LILY D’AMBROSIO MP
Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change

ANDREW ROBINSON
Clerk of the Executive Council

SCHEDULE

Environment Protection Act 1970
WASTE MANAGEMENT POLICY (COMBUSTIBLE RECYCLABLE AND WASTE MATERIALS)

1. Objective
The objective of this policy is to ensure that combustible recyclable and waste materials at waste and resource recovery facilities are managed and stored in a manner that minimises risks of harm to human health and the environment from fire.

2. Commencement
This policy will come into operation on the date it is published in the Government Gazette.

3. Revocation

4. Definitions
In this policy –
Authority has the same meaning as in the Environment Protection Act 2017;
combustible recyclable and waste materials are recyclable and waste materials that could create a fire hazard, including but not limited to paper, cardboard, wood, plastic, rubber, tyres, tyre-derived waste, textile, organic material, refuse-derived fuel, specified electronic waste, metal and other materials with combustible contaminants, and combustible by-products of metal processing activities, and may include industrial or municipal waste;
industrial waste has the same meaning as in the Environment Protection Act 1970;
licensed landfill means premises of a type numbered A05 (Landfills) in column 1 of the Table in Schedule 1 to the Environment Protection (Scheduled Premises) Regulations 2017, the occupier of which holds a licence issued by the Authority under section 20 of the Environment Protection Act 1970;
licensed waste tyre storage premises means premises of a type numbered A09 (Waste tyre storage) in column 1 of the Table in Schedule 1 to the Environment Protection (Scheduled Premises) Regulations 2017, the occupier of which holds a licence issued by the Authority under section 20 of the Environment Protection Act 1970;
municipal waste has the same meaning as in the Environment Protection Act 1970;
occupier has the same meaning as in the Environment Protection Act 1970;
specified electronic waste has the same meaning as in the Environment Protection (Scheduled Premises) Regulations 2017;

Note
specified electronic waste under the Environment Protection (Scheduled Premises) Regulations 2017 means waste rechargeable batteries, cathode ray tube monitors and televisions, flat panel monitors and televisions, information technology and telecommunications equipment, lighting and photovoltaic panels.
waste and resource recovery facility means a premises that receives waste intended for recycling, reprocessing, recovery, purification or sale;
waste has the same meaning as in the Environment Protection Act 1970.

5. Application
This policy applies to waste and resource recovery facilities in Victoria, other than licensed waste tyre storage premises and licensed landfills.

6. Risk management
An occupier of a waste and resource recovery facility must –

(1) identify, assess and control risks of harm to human health and the environment from fire at the facility in accordance with the Authority’s publication Management and Storage of Combustible Recyclable and Waste Materials – Guideline, as amended from time to time and published on the Authority’s website; and

(2) for the purposes of subclause (1), prepare a document that –

(a) includes the following matters –

(i) possible fire hazards and their causes at the facility;
(ii) an assessment of the risks to human health and the environment from the identified fire hazards;
(iii) appropriate controls for the identified risks;
(iv) a description of how the controls will be implemented and continuously improved;

(b) is reviewed and, if necessary, revised whenever the hazards or the risks change at the facility; and

(c) must be made available to the Authority on request.

7. Management and storage
(1) An occupier of a waste and resource recovery facility must take all reasonable steps to manage and store combustible recyclable and waste materials at that facility in a manner that minimises the risks of harm to human health and the environment from fire.

(2) An occupier of a waste and resource recovery facility complies with subclause (1) if the combustible recyclable and waste material is managed and stored –

(a) in accordance with the Authority’s publication Management and Storage of Combustible Recyclable and Waste Materials – Guideline, as amended from time to time and published on the Authority’s website; or

(b) in a manner that minimises risks of harm to human health and the environment from fire at the facility to a level at least equivalent to that under the Management and Storage of Combustible Recyclable and Waste Materials – Guideline.
8. **Emergency management plan**

An occupier of a waste and resource recovery facility must prepare an emergency management plan specific to the facility in accordance with the Authority’s publication *Management and Storage of Combustible Recyclable and Waste Materials – Guideline*, as amended from time to time and published on the Authority’s website, that –

(a) includes a description of the measures in place to control a fire at the facility and to control impacts of any such fire on human health and the environment; and

(b) must be made available to the Authority on request.

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