

Monday 18 July 2005

## TURNING WASTE INTO WINE

Sludge from wine production could be recycled and turned into rich compost to fertilise vineyards in a trial being supported by the state's recycling body, Zero Waste SA.

Zero Waste has provided funding totalling almost \$155,000 to three South Australian companies with unique recycling proposals, through its research and market development incentives scheme.

Environment Minister John Hill said through the funding program, Zero Waste SA aimed to build South Australia's capacity to develop innovative recycled products and expand opportunities for SA businesses in overseas and local markets.

"Zero Waste SA is supporting these companies and their unique approach to recycling," Minister Hill said.

"The aim is to divert as much waste as we can from going to landfill. This funding is going to projects which are progressive and visionary in terms of recycling and reuse of waste, whether it's industrial, construction or other."

The grants have been awarded to:

### **Flinders Bioremediation - recycling and reuse trials for winery organic waste (\$8,250)**

Flinders Bioremediation in conjunction with Kalorano, a Riverland compost company, and Riverland wineries Angoves and Berri Estates, will test the suitability of organic winery waste for use in composting.

Composting not only diverts the waste from landfill but the final product can be reused on local vineyards to provide a closed loop system involving both recycling and reuse.

Several vineyards in the Riverland have shown interest in sourcing good quality mulch or compost product for their vines, to save water and improve soil quality.

There is considerable potential for replication across other wineries and wine regions.

### **Amcor Fibre Packaging - composting ink tailing waste (\$4,500)**

AMCOR will undertake a production trial to assess the suitability of using ink tailing waste as material for composting.

Ink tailings are the major waste product generated by the waste water treatment plant at the factory in Athol Park, Adelaide. After every printing job the machinery is washed down with water because different inks are used for each job. All of this waste, about 400 tonnes, currently goes to landfill.

If successful, there is potential replication for other printing/fibre packaging industries.

**ResourceCo** - two projects

**Fines Waste Recycling (\$42,000)**

To develop an engineering fill product from fines waste screened from crushing mixed construction and demolition waste. ResourceCo currently has 40,000 tonnes of the material stockpiled and there is potential to divert 80,000 tonnes per annum of fines waste from landfill. The project will include laboratory testing, a field trial and cost-benefit analysis as well as the development of a product quality plan.

**Bituminous Pavement Product (\$100,000)**

ResourceCo is also looking at developing a cold asphalt pavement product manufactured from recycled asphalt.

The project seeks to expand markets for the 50,000-tonnes a year of asphalt materials by extensive testing of the product using this material.