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## **AMBITIOUS PLAN FOR STATE'S WASTE**

South Australia is leading the way in recycling of waste and reducing the amount of rubbish going to landfill with an ambitious new strategy.

The state's first comprehensive waste plan, developed by Zero Waste SA, was today released by Environment and Conservation Minister John Hill for consultation

Under the plan by 2010 :

- 75 per cent of all waste put out by householders for kerbside collection will be recycled.
- Recycling of construction and demolition waste would double.
- Recycling of commercial and industrial waste would jump by 30 per cent.

Minister Hill said *South Australia's Waste Strategy 2005 – 2010* sets out waste reduction goals and targets for South Australia and included measures to achieve them.

“Waste has major environmental, social and economic consequences if we continue to allow current practices to continue,” he said. “The proposed waste strategy builds on several previous initiatives to tackle waste at both state and national levels.”

Currently 1.2 million tonnes of waste goes to landfill in South Australia, while 2.1 million tonnes is recycled. About 65 per cent of all recyclable materials are diverted from landfill, placing SA at the forefront of waste recycling in Australia.

Under the strategy all waste collected in Adelaide must first be processed through a transfer station or resource recovery facility to remove recyclables before going to landfill.

The plan also pledges no new landfills to be built in Adelaide – with landfills a significant source of methane, a greenhouse gas that contributes to global warming.

“These goals and targets are challenging and clearly signal the scale and urgency of the changes required,” Minister Hill said.

“The proposed strategy will assist in meeting, and may exceed, the Zero Waste target in South Australia's Strategic Plan to reduce waste to landfill by 25 per cent within 10 years.”

Local councils, Business SA, and the waste management industry helped develop the proposed waste strategy.

The waste strategy consultation paper is at [www.zerowaste.sa.gov.au](http://www.zerowaste.sa.gov.au)