



## **Trade Waste Policy**

## 1 POLICY STATEMENT

Gippsland Water, along with our customers, faces numerous challenges associated with achieving triple bottom line objectives and environmental sustainability. In addressing these challenges Gippsland Water continually strives to improve its approach to Trade Waste Management to ensure that optimal results are achieved for all stakeholders from both an environmental and economic sustainability perspective.

Gippsland Water receives and treats a large portion of Victoria's Trade Waste. This service is critical in managing the risks associated with Trade Waste, as well as facilitating the uptake of more sustainable business practices via cleaner production and waste minimisation across our industrial and commercial customer sectors.

In delivering this service, Gippsland Water has direct contact with a large number of industrial and commercial waste generators. As such, the Corporation has a unique platform to mitigate risk and facilitate cleaner production, waste minimisation and sustainable business practices that will help us move towards the goal of long term sustainability.

## 2 RESPONSIBLE OFFICER

The General Manager Business Development is responsible for the implementation and maintenance of this policy and associated references.

## 3 KEY DEFINITIONS

The following definitions apply to this policy:

- 3.1 Trade Waste Means:
- (a) any waterborne waste (other than sewage which is suitable, according to the criteria of a Corporation, for discharge into the Corporation's sewerage system
  - (b) any other matter that is prescribed by regulations made under the *Water Act (1989)* to be trade waste.

3.2 Trade Waste Management  
Means the management and administration of Trade Waste using Gippsland Water systems.

## 4 REFERENCES

Water (Trade Waste) Regulations	TRIM Ref: COR/11/47639	
Trade Waste Customer Service Code Ref: COR/12/7731		TRIM
Gippsland Trade Waste Customer Charter COR/12/35992	TRIM	Ref:

## 5 OBJECTIVES

The successful implementation of Trade Waste Management will be underpinned by the following objectives:

- to protect the environment;
- to protect the health and safety of members of the public and Gippsland Water employees;
- to protect Gippsland Water's sewerage infrastructure and associated assets;
- to assist recovery of the true cost associated with the receipt, carriage, treatment and disposal of Trade Waste and the maintenance and repair of Gippsland Waters assets through the implementation of appropriate fees and charges; and
- to encourage waste minimization and cleaner production initiatives including waste prevention, recycling and pre-treatment of Trade Waste.

## 6 APPLICATION / PROCESS

The objectives of this policy will be achieved by:

- ensuring the discharge of Trade Waste into Gippsland Water's wastewater systems and wastewater treatment plants meets Gippsland Water's regulatory requirements;
- managing trade waste in accordance with the environmental protection principles set out in section 1 of the Environment Protection Act 1970;
- the facilitation of recycling to ensure the trade waste management framework does not become a barrier to the development of recycling or reuse where this is required for environmental protection or the market demands this as an outcome;
- identifying customers that discharge Trade Waste and ensuring compliance with all relevant legislation and documentation by entering into Trade Waste Agreements;
- promoting a culture of waste minimization and cleaner production initiatives; and
- effectively managing and administering customer information within Gippsland Water systems.
- abiding by the requirements of the Department of Environment and Primary Industries review of Victoria's trade waste management framework relevant to the organisation, the Essential Services

Commission's trade waste Code of Practice and Gippsland Water's trade waste Customer Charter.

## **7 LOAD BASED TRADE WASTE CHARGING**

Gippsland Water will apply load based Trade Waste pricing where appropriate as approved by the Essential Services Commission.

## **8 POLICY REVIEW**

This policy will be reviewed annually by the General Manager Customer Services and Communications and submitted to the Board for approval, to ensure it reflects current day business realities, relevance, and continued application.