



# waste 2019

The industry's leading waste management conference

## Waste 2019 Conference

Opal Cove Resort  
Coffs Harbour NSW  
14-16 May 2019

### Waste 2019 Abstract Submission

Insert presentation title here

*My presentation is relevant to the following topic area(s).*

- Aboriginal community waste management
- Circular economy (inc implemented case studies & clinical requisite legislation)
- Collection (inc MUD's successes/innovation, transient population areas)
- CDS (innovation, learning & successes)
- Economics (inc business cases, data gathering, statistics, monitoring performance)
- Education (inc behaviour change, community engagement, social media)
- Grants (major waste grants, outcomes and processes)
- Infrastructure & planning (inc C&D guidelines, EfW, AWT packaging waste) & outputs)
- Innovative projects (inc artificial intelligence, case studies)
- Landfill
- Litter & illegal dumping (inc new innovative & smart initiatives, surveillance)
- National waste policies & programs
- Organics (inc food waste, national food waste strategy collection, processing, pilot results)
- Overseas experiences
- Problem & hazardous waste (inc asbestos, & medical, e-waste, ocean plastics, paint, tyres etc)
- Procurement
- Product stewardship & extended producer responsibility
- Recycling & resource recovery (inc Impact of National Sword, and reduced commodity prices, reuse case studies, CRC's)
- Regional issues (inc collaboration, enforcement, legal decisions,
- Regulations & levies (inc monitoring & enforcement, legal decisions,
- Social enterprise (inc case studies)
- State based issues (inc media transportation between states, waste crime)
- Strategic waste planning & policy
- Technology
- Tenders & contracts
- Other



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### Presenter information

**Presenter name:** Dr Ron Wainberg

**Presenter position:** Technical Director

**Presenter organisation:** Mike Ritchie and Associates Pty Ltd t/a MRA Consulting Group

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**Presenter phone number:** 02 8541 6169

**Presenter mobile number:** 0418 427 481

### Biography

Ron Wainberg is the Technical Director at MRA Consulting. He has developed key skills in the field of solid waste management and has over 30 years' experience in both project and contract management gained in Europe, Asia and Australia. He is a consultant with a particular interest in resource recovery from waste materials, the development of practical waste management strategies, and how processing technology can be successfully applied to recover resources from wastes.

He has previously served as the Waste Advisory Team Leader and subsequently Technical Director for Waste at Hyder Consulting in Sydney where he was involved in a significant number of studies in the waste sector. From 2009 until 2013, Ron served as the National President of the Waste Management Association of Australia.



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### Waste Management in NSW - What's going on?

#### Abstract Summary

The recent EPA decision to effectively shut down Alternate Waste Treatment and the implications for the waste industry in NSW.

#### Abstract

NSW should be the standard bearer in Australian resource recovery. The state led the introduction of a waste levy which is now the highest in the country. The first waste processing plants were commissioned in NSW, and the recent Waste Less Recycle More initiative has seen over \$700 million of levy funds invested into resource recovery. NSW had a positive start, but recently it has faltered and there is a risk of the momentum being lost.

The reasons for the turn-around are complex: The recent EPA decision to effectively shut down Alternate Waste Treatment has constrained industry confidence and will certainly have a significant impact on landfill diversion, but there are systemic issues underlying this which need to be addressed in NSW is to be able to achieve its landfill diversion targets and associated social and environmental benefits.

This paper will review the history of resource recovery in NSW and draw lessons on what could have been done better. The issues currently hampering waste management will be discussed, and suggestions made on how to address them in order to achieve the outcomes expected by the broader community.