

26 APR 2012

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Department of  
**Environment and Heritage  
Protection**

Ref CTS 04476/12

Mr Rowan Barber  
Email: barber.rowan@gmail.com

Dear Mr Barber

Thank you for your email of 11 April 2012 to the Honourable Andrew Powell MP, Minister for Environment and Heritage Protection concerning the Queensland Government's Waste Levy. The Minister has asked me to respond on his behalf.

To achieve the election commitment to abolish the industry waste tax, on 10 April the government formally resolved to repeal the levy, to take effect from 1 July 2012.

This levy will not be replaced and programs that may have been funded by this levy have been suspended. However, many aspects of the *Waste Reduction and Recycling Act 2011* are sound and they provide a solid platform from which to develop further reform in partnership with all sectors.

Your concerns in relation to interstate waste coming into Queensland are noted. Although the levy will be repealed, provisions of the Act relating to waste disposal and recycling data reporting at landfills will be retained. Information that waste disposal sites will still be required to provide includes the amount and type of waste and where it came from. This gives the department the ability to monitor interstate waste movements.

Provisions of the Act allow for the introduction of disposal bans, the preparation of a priority product statement and the use of product stewardship arrangements. The Minister for Environment and Heritage Protection intends to explore these policy options more fully and develop suitable approaches in consultation with stakeholders. The Australian Sustainable Business Group is strongly encouraged to take an active role in the process.

Should you have further enquiries, please contact Tamara O'Shea, General Manager, Waste Avoidance and Resource Efficiency of the department on 3339 5800.

Yours sincerely



**Tony Roberts**  
**Assistant Director-General, Natural Resources and Environment**  
**Department of Environment and Heritage Protection**