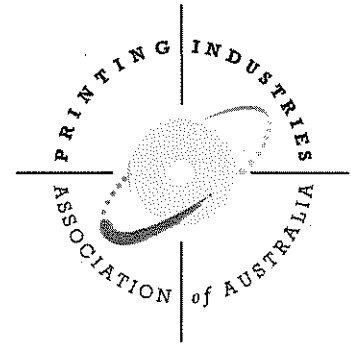


30th July 2010



PRINTING INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

WASTE LEVY SUBMISSION 30 July 2010

The Printing Industries Association of Australia (*Printing Industries*) supports in principle the objectives that the Queensland Government's seeks to achieve as outlined in Queensland's Waste Strategy 2010–2020 Consultation draft. *Printing Industries* endorses actions leading to reduced amounts of waste directed to landfill. Significant evidence points towards improved profitability for companies that reduce waste as part of the implementation of more efficient production processes.

Printing Industries submits however that all sectors of society should bear the obligation to reduce waste. While we recognise that the corporate society bears a social responsibility, a cursory examination of trends household waste growth suggests that:

- household waste continues to grow year on year;
- the considerable majority of waste going to land fill is household waste.

When considering, businesses engaged in the Queensland printing industry, *Printing Industries* would like to submit that certain Queensland printing companies have implemented an independently audited environmental management systems (EMS) based on the requirements of and fully aligned with ISO14001. The EMS developed by *Printing Industries* is titled Sustainable Green Print (SGP).

SGP is a four level environmental management system designed exclusively for the Australian printing industry. Within SGP print businesses can choose a level of environmental performance that suits their business, their environmental needs and the needs of their customers.

From Level One, the 'entry' level and Level Two; through to Level Three, the interchange level with and pathway to ISO 14001, the International Standard for environmental management; and on to Level Four where companies can pursue 'world's best practice' environmental management, SGP is complete environmental management system. From its underpinnings of reduction, recovery, recycling and reuse to its 'eco-label' system, SGP allows print businesses, having completed and been audited on their chosen level within SGP, to affix an accredited SGP 'eco-label' to their corporate marketing material.

Printing Industries

Association of

Australia

QUEENSLAND REGION

2/42 Finsbury St

Newmarket

QLD 4051

PO Box 229

Kelvin Grove BC

QLD 4059

Telephone

07 3356 0022

Fax

07 3356 0027

E-Mail

qid@printnet.com.au

In today's demanding business environment it is both prudent and sound economic management to manage a business with continual emphasis on systems that reduce power usage, emissions and waste, and subsequent carbon footprint, and to recycle all material whenever possible. SGP provides a complete structure and guidelines to achieve.

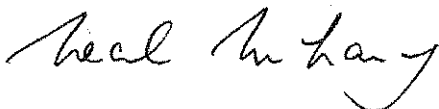
Sustainable Green Print was officially launched in Queensland in July 2009 by the Minister for Environment & Resource Management, The Hon. Kate Jones MP. It was developed over the foregoing two years and the Department of Environment and Resource Management (DERM) played a leading role in assisting *Printing Industries* in this regard. DERM also provided financial assistance to *Printing Industries* (\$58,750) to help launch and implement the program.

At the time submissions to Queensland's Waste Strategy 2010–2020 Consultation Draft close, twelve Queensland printing companies will have achieved accreditation at various levels of Sustainable Green Print, while a further 25 have received training and are working towards accreditation. SGP companies are encouraged to participate in DERM's Ecobiz program as part of their environmental management processes.

A key component of Sustainable Green Print is waste management. Accredited companies are required to identify and measure a minimum of five solid waste streams and three liquid waste streams. Measurements must be made at every pick-up and recorded on a monthly or quarterly basis. In a requirement that goes beyond ISO14001 accredited companies must continuously benchmark their key waste streams so that a true indication of improved waste management is achieved. Most often the benchmarked waste stream is that directed to landfill. Sustainable Green Print companies are all able to demonstrate reduced landfill-directed waste by improved waste segregation, eg, recycling plastics, cardboard, wrappings, etc.

***Printing Industries* submits that those printing companies that have achieved Sustainable Green Print accreditation should be exempt from the proposed waste levy as they are able to demonstrate both in practice and by documentation that they have reduced waste directed to landfill on an ongoing basis, and in doing so improve their recycling performance. Continuous improvement in waste management is a fundamental requirement of Sustainable Green Print.**

Printing Industries are able to confirm with DERM which companies hold current Sustainable Green Print accreditation when they apply for exemption. DERM will itself be able to substantiate exemption claims by referring to the *Printing Industries* web site where accredited companies are listed.



General Manager (Qld Region)
Printing Industries Association of Australia