

Cleanaway commends NSW Government for 20-year waste strategy

Cleanaway congratulates the NSW Government for releasing its long-anticipated *Waste and Sustainable Materials Strategy 2041* document, commonly known by the industry as the 20-year waste strategy, and the *NSW Plastics Action Plan*.

In the strategy documents, the NSW Government has committed to an ambitious reform agenda including phasing out problematic single-use plastics, mandating the procurement of recycled content, mandating the separation of food organics and garden organics (FOGO), and providing incentives for biogas generation from waste.

Cleanaway's Chief Operating Officer Mr Brendan Gill said: "I commend the NSW Government for its commitment to creating a domestic circular economy. These strategies provide industry with certainty moving forward to invest in infrastructure and innovation and, in turn, create new opportunities and jobs.

"Over the next five years, the NSW Government will back these strategies with more than \$365 million of funding to maximise recycling. Cleanaway has previously benefited from \$5 million from the Environmental Trust as part of the NSW Government's *Waste Less, Recycle More* initiative to build a PET pelletising facility in Albury*. It is anticipated the facility, a joint venture with Asahi and Pact Group, will recycle the equivalent of around one billion 600ml PET plastic bottles each year, which will be used as a raw material to produce new bottles and food and beverage packaging in Australia, to close the loop on our recycling.

"The strategy includes a policy framework recognising energy-from-waste as an important part of the waste hierarchy, notably in managing residual waste where waste cannot be avoided and recycling and other forms of recovery are not possible. The benefits of energy-from-waste include reducing landfill volumes and a reduction of our carbon footprint, building towards a more sustainable future.

"Cleanaway has a long-term role to play in NSW, ensuring recyclables reprocessing capacity can continue to grow into the future, which is aligned to Cleanaway's Footprint 2025 roadmap. We are supporting the NSW Government to realise the objectives and targets outlined in its circular economy policy *Waste and Sustainable Materials Strategy 2041* by creating economic growth, jobs and making a sustainable future possible."

** This initiative is funded through the NSW waste levy, with the support of the Department of Regional NSW and the Australian Government Recycling Modernisation Fund.*

For further information contact: Mark Biddulph, Head of Corporate Affairs, 0499 332 601

Cleanaway Waste Management Ltd is Australia's leading waste management company, with a national network of unique collection, processing, treatment and landfill assets. Cleanaway operates from over 250 locations and directly employs 6,500 people. Our philosophy is that all waste is a resource and we aim to incorporate recover, recycling and reuse throughout our operations and those of our clients. Our mission is to make a sustainable future possible for all our stakeholders.

Australia's waste industry employs directly and indirectly over 50,000 Australians and provides essential services to the community.