24 May 2024

To Mr Greg Newman & Mr Stephen Beaman
NSW EPA
greg.newman@epa.nsw.gov.au
Stephen.beaman@epa.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mr Newman and Mr Beaman

NSW Waste Levy and Flood Debris

I refer to the April 2024 significant weather events across various parts of NSW which resulted in the NSW EPA declaring that the "waste levy has been scrapped" across multiple media outlets (reference: Live updates for April 2024 flood recovery | NSW Government) for approximately 26 local government areas in NSW.

The Australian Landfill Owners Association (ALOA) believes that the dialogue created by the NSW EPA and promoted by the Minister for the Environment, Hon Penny Sharpe, was misleading and resulted in the NSW community assuming that the NSW Government had waived all Waste Levies associated with the disposal of flood impacted waste, when in fact the Waste Levy was still collected by the NSW Government associated with the levy imposed on landfill owners to cover the waste received.

In such a circumstance when the NSW EPA feels justified in promoting their apparent support for clean-up of flood debris far and wide, ALOA believes it is also warranted that the NSW EPA does not seek financial benefit associated with the environmental control used as a direct result of landfilling the flood impacted waste. Many of ALOA's members use approximately 400kg of landfill cover material for every tonne of flood waste received. At the current Waste Levy rate of $163.20 per tonne, that means that landfill owners are still paying the NSW Government over $65 per tonne to manage flood materials for the community.

ALOA implores the NSW EPA to reconsider its partial Waste Levy waiver in natural disaster circumstances and consider a full Waste Levy waiver to truly respect and support the NSW communities that are impacted by natural disaster type events.

ALOA is happy to meet with the NSW EPA to discuss this matter. Should you wish to discuss this matter please contact ALOA at info@aloa.com.au.

Yours sincerely

Colin Sweet
CEO ALOA