

18 November 2024

Select Committee on PFAS (per and polyfluoroalkyl substances)
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600
[Via Submission Upload Parliament of Australia website](#)

Dear Sir / Madam

RE: Select Committee on PFAS (per and polyfluoroalkyl substances)

The Australian Landfill Owners Association (ALOA) was formed in late 2008. It is an incorporated entity with members from across Australia.

Modern landfills are an essential element in today's integrated waste management infrastructure as landfills:

- Offer cost effective and reliable disposal of recycling and processing residues and unsorted wastes;
- Manage greenhouse gas emission by methane collection and combustion;
- Provide a source of renewable energy;
- Have the flexibility to accept variable waste volumes; and
- Are reliable last resorts for the acceptance of large volumes of 'disaster' waste.
- Member landfills provide services to the general public, local government, industry, property developers, mining and agriculture.

ALOA members receive and safely manage the disposal of almost three quarters of the waste landfilled in Australia.

Since its inception ALOA has defended the interests of its members in national and state issues. ALOA is governed by a 'national' board and has state 'chapters' in each of the mainland states.

The Australian Landfill Owners Association (ALOA) represents landfill operators across Australia to advance landfill standards and assist in obtaining clarity and where possible uniformity of environmental standards.

ALOA has been an active participant in the debate on the management of PFAS over many years and has made previous submissions to EPA Victoria on the preparation of the National Environment Management Plan for PFAS. In addition, we have made submission to The National Chemicals Working Group in June 2019.

I have attached our submission and the current version of the PFAS NEMP Version2.0 as background. ALOA reiterates that we believe that EPAs and Government need to influence the producers and suppliers of significant PFAS inputs to the Australian market, rather than the current and very linear 'end of pipe' approach to policy development. Landfills (like wastewater treatment plants) have no control over the materials that society produces and disposes of (whereas Government does).

ALOA has specific interest in the following Terms of Reference of your Inquiry:

e) the effectiveness of current and proposed federal and state and territory regulatory frameworks, including the adequacy of health-based guidance values, public sector resourcing and coordination amongst relevant agencies in preventing, controlling and managing the risks of PFAS to human health and the environment;

(f) the role, liability and responsibility of government agencies and industry in the production, distribution, contamination and remediation of PFAS, including obligations under the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants and other relevant principles and international conventions;

(g) international best practices for the environmentally sound management and safe disposal of PFAS;

We are prepared to participate in the Public Hearings and will take the opportunity to further liaise with our members on these issues.



Yours sincerely

Daniel Fyfe
Chairman and Acting CEO ALOA

Attachments:

Submission on PFAS Draft NEMP version 2, 21 June 2019

Final PFAS NEMP