

MEDIA RELEASE



APRIL 2021

Compost facility upgrade moves into detailed design phase

A \$16.05M upgrade of Tasmania's largest composting facility has moved into the detailed design phase, after Dulverton Waste Management signed a contract this week with specialist engineering firm, COVA Haywards.

The Early Contractor Involvement agreement will see COVA Haywards work closely with Dulverton Waste Management (DWM) staff to develop shovel-ready, detailed design plans for a fully enclosed organics waste processing facility to replace DWM's existing outdoor composting operation near Railton in Tasmania's North West.

The contract was awarded following a competitive Request for Tender process. Dulverton Waste Management CEO, Mat Greskie, was impressed by the technology proposed in the COVA Haywards design concept and its ability to remove odours and eliminate leachate from the composting process.

"We're transforming to a fully enclosed, controlled environment that can convert up to 40,000 tonnes of organic waste into nutrient-rich compost each year. Compost will be produced in a manner comparable to a manufacturing production line, in enclosed tunnels with aeration, air filtration, and liquid capture and treatment systems embedded in the design," Mr Greskie said.

"Specialised equipment will receive and process the different types and formats of organic waste, making it possible to safely and efficiently handle household and commercial food waste, industrial food processing by-products, green waste, biosolids, and packaged food waste among others."

"It also presents opportunities to strengthen Tasmania's biosecurity response to potential future fruit fly or other pest and disease outbreaks that might threaten our valuable horticulture, agriculture and aquaculture industries," Mr Greskie said.

The detailed design phase for the upgraded facility is expected to take approximately six months to complete.

Subject to securing necessary funding, DWM aims to approve a construction contract in the second half of this year and for the upgraded facility to be ready for commissioning at the end of 2022.

To enable the project to proceed with certainty, DWM and its owner Councils are seeking a \$6M contribution from the State or Federal Government to assist with the project's construction phase.

"The Tasmanian Liberal Government's policy announcement committing \$3 million to the facility upgrade was very welcomed. It's great to see the strong level of interest and advocacy being shown to the project by State and Federal Ministers."

"Diverting landfill waste, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and supporting Tasmania's industries with sustainable solutions are responsibilities shared by all levels of government," Mr Greskie said.

END

For media comment and interviews, contact:

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The concept drawing of new facility is located on page 2 of this Media Release.

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Note: Concept image shown without roof to allow an interior view.