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Media Release

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Council embraces future of sustainable waste management

Liverpool City Council has awarded a tender for Advanced Waste Treatment, paving the way for the sustainable management of the City's solid waste. The contract will provide a means to recover recyclables and process food waste from household garbage bins, diverting over 70 per cent of waste from landfill.

SITA Environmental Solutions has been awarded the contract for a period of 10 years, with an option to extend a further five years at Council's discretion. Council engaged the services of a probity auditor to ensure a transparent tender process.

SITA Environmental Solutions is one of Australia's leading recycling and waste management companies. Operating in all mainland States and the Australian Capital Territory, SITA provides services to more than 43,000 commercial and industrial customers and more than 800,000 households each week across Australia.

"Liverpool City Council is proud to partner with SITA in the delivery of the Advanced Waste Treatment plant, which will have the capacity to sort garbage and recycle or compost materials which would have gone straight to landfill," said Liverpool City Council's General Manager, Phil Tolhurst.

"This technology enables Council to embrace the future of sustainable waste management by recovering resources from the garbage and significantly reducing material disposed to landfill. It revolutionises the way we think about garbage," Mr Tolhurst said.

"With Sydney's landfill disposal capacity overburdened and nearby landfill costs skyrocketing, Advanced Waste Treatment is a responsible move by Council to save money and address environmental concerns.

"It enables Council to significantly decrease greenhouse gas emissions resulting from a household's waste and recover resources from the waste stream thereby reducing the demand for natural resources," he said.

"The move to Advanced Waste Treatment has the added advantage that it will enable Council to recover recyclable and other waste from households where there is currently no other recycling options available," Mr Tolhurst added.

SITA's purpose-built Advanced Waste Treatment facility is due to open in early 2009 at Kemps Creek, just north of the Liverpool local government area. It will have the capacity to take up to 100,000 tonnes of waste per annum for processing.



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Waste at SITA's Advanced Waste Treatment facility is treated in three stages:

1. Primary screening to mechanically separate and recover any recyclable material in the waste stream
2. Composting of remaining organic material in enclosed tunnels; and
3. Final screening of contaminants and maturation of compost.

SITA Environmental Solutions' Managing Director, Philippe Maillard, said Advanced Waste Treatment provided local councils with a holistic solution for waste.

"SITA's Advanced Waste Treatment plant will provide Liverpool City Council with a safe, flexible, effective and proven method of treating waste that focuses on meeting Council's sustainability objectives.

"This decision sets Liverpool at the forefront of waste management internationally, reduces greenhouse gas impact and will save residents considerable amount of money over time," Mr Maillard said.

The announcement of the contract to partner with SITA Environmental Solutions for Advanced Waste Treatment is the latest move by Liverpool City Council to improve its waste services and increase environmental outcomes. As part of the contract, separated garden waste will be composted at Australian Native Landscapes, in preparation for Council's forthcoming garden waste service.

Council's Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy 2005-2015 was adopted by the Council on 28 November 2005. Tenders are being prepared to deliver some key decisions in Council's waste strategy, which were to provide:

- A separate garden waste collection
- A separate recycling collection in a larger bin; and
- A mixed collection of residual waste including food waste in a smaller 120L or 140L bin

Council aims to provide a fully integrated waste management system to provide sustainable waste management over the longer term.

For more information visit www.liverpool.nsw.gov.au or www.sita.com.au

SITA Environmental Solutions is part of the SUEZ Group of Companies, which operates in 38 countries and provides waste and recycling services to millions of people worldwide.

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