

MEDIA RELEASE

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Allawuna Farm ticks more boxes on environmental safeguards and economic benefit

SITA Australia says additional rigorous testing and studies have confirmed that the Allawuna Farm Landfill Project does not pose a threat to drinking water supplies.

SITA State General Manager Nial Stock said ongoing results from 23 groundwater monitoring bores at the Allawuna site had reinforced the view of the Department of Water that the project will not impact the Mundaring Weir drinking water catchment.

“The landfill will be located in the upper reaches of the regional water catchment, away from major water bodies and the Avon River,” Mr Stock said.

“Testing overseen by respected environmental consultants Golder Associates has also confirmed that the groundwater in the vicinity of the proposed site is salty, likely as a result of dryland salinity.”

Mr Stock said protection and separation of all water sources had been enhanced by recent design changes including lifting the base of the landfill, to increase the distance from any groundwater sources. The facility will also include a continuous synthetic liner system above a low permeability protective layer of clay under the landfill.

The revised proposal for Allawuna Farm also reduces the landfill footprint from 52 to 36 hectares, with the total volume of waste received at the facility falling from 10.1 million tonnes to 4.6 million tonnes. The forecast “life” of the facility will also reduce from approximately 37 to approximately 20 years.

Mr Stock said in addition to rigorous environmental safeguards, SITA was continuing to establish a framework to deliver economic benefits to York and the region when the project was able to proceed.

“We have now entered into a heads of agreement with York headquartered company, Avon Waste, to provide management services at the Allawuna facility and it is estimated the landfill will generate in excess of \$1 million in new wages into the district,” he said.

It has been estimated the Allawuna Farm Landfill will provide 22 full time and 3 part time jobs when operational.

– Ends –

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SITA AUSTRALIA (SITA) makes it easy for our customers to put their waste to good use. We find smart and reliable solutions to collect, recover and recycle waste into valuable resources to help protect our environment. SITA employs 2,100 people and provides services to more than 56,000 commercial and industrial customers and 3.7 million residents across Australia each week.