#### 2017

# THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

# WASTE MANAGEMENT AND RESOURCE RECOVERY REGULATION 2017

SL2017-20

#### **EXPLANATORY STATEMENT**

Circulated by authority of Meegan Fitzharris MLA Minister for Transport and City Services

## WASTE MANAGEMENT AND RESOURCE RECOVERY REGULATION 2017

#### Introduction

This explanatory statement relates to the *Waste Management and Resource Recovery Regulation 2017* (Regulation), made under the *Waste Management and Resource Recovery Act 2016* (Act) as presented to the Legislative Assembly. It has been prepared to assist the reader and to help inform debate. It does not form part of the Regulation and has not been endorsed by the ACT Legislative Assembly.

This explanatory statement must be read in conjunction with the Regulation. It is not intended to be a comprehensive description of the Regulation. What is written about a provision is not to be taken as an authoritative statement of the meaning of a provision, this being a responsibility of the courts.

#### **Overview of the Regulation**

The purpose of the Act is to promote and reward responsible best-practice in waste management and resource recovery. The Act was developed following extensive industry and community consultation.

The objects in the Act align with the Government's waste management policy objectives.

Section 128 of the Act provides a general regulation-making power, specifically that a regulation may:

- (a) exclude people or activities from the application of the provisions of the Act and
- (b) create offences for contraventions of the regulations and fix penalties of not more than 40 penalty units for the offences.

The Regulation builds upon the *Waste Minimisation Regulation 2001* (Waste Minimisation Regulation). The only significant departures from the previous regulatory regime are the licensing, registration and reporting requirements for waste businesses, as well as additional offence provisions which strengthen the Government's ability to penalise inappropriate and potentially dangerous waste management practices where compliance is not achieved through public education or the issuing of a rectification notice under s17. These changes are explained in this document.

A number of provisions in the Act provide for regulations to specify matters such as:

- declaring a substance to be within the meaning of "waste";
- including a person or activity to be within the meaning of "waste management business";
- information to be included in an application for a waste facility licence, or for registration as a waste transporter;
- entities to be consulted in relation to a proposed licence;
- information to be included in a licence;
- information to be included in registers;
- conditions to be imposed on licences or registration;
- information to be included in forms and instruments;
- requirements for the display of a waste transporters registration number;
- matters in relation to which the Waste Manager may give directions;
- matters that must or may not be taken into account in making certain decisions;
- prohibited activities;
- · reporting waste activities; and
- requirements for written consent for some waste activity.

This Regulation seeks to bring the ACT into line with other Australian jurisdictions in relation to waste management. All Australian states have legislation with provisions which have acted as models for this Regulation.

### Human rights implications—presumption of innocence - offence provisions

Offences of strict liability engage the right to be presumed innocent under section 22(1) of the *Human Rights Act 2004* (Human Rights Act), as they may reverse the onus of proof from the prosecution onto the defendant. Strict liability offences engage the presumption of innocence and are inherently compatible with human rights.

Subsection 28(1) of the Human Rights Act provides that human rights are subject only to reasonable limits set by laws that can be demonstrably justified in a free and democratic society. Section 28(2) of the Human Rights Act then provides that, in deciding whether a limit on a human right is reasonable, all relevant factors must be considered. Section 28(2) further provides five factors that must be considered when determining whether a limit on human rights is considered justified.

The limit that the Regulation places on the right to the presumption of innocence in section 22(1) of the Human Rights Act is considered reasonable and justifiable in a free and democratic society, taking into account the factors enumerated in section 28(2) of the Human Rights Act, namely:

#### (a) The nature of the right affected

The right to presumption of innocence before the law is a very important right that has long been recognised in common law and, in the Australian Capital Territory (Territory), is now codified in section 22(1) of the Human Rights Act. However, the right may be subject to limits, particularly when those who are subject to an offence provision would be expected to be aware of its existence. An important provision in the Regulation in this regard is section 17, which provides for an "authorised person" (most likely, the Waste Manager) to issue a rectification notice to a person whom it has alleged has breached one of the offence provisions. The intention is to allow the authorised person to inform and educate those alleged to have committed an offence against the Regulation about their legal obligations and provide them with the opportunity to rectify their conduct. This approach, along with a public education campaign about the Act and the Regulation, is intended to foster best-practice waste management throughout the ACT community in line with the objects and principles of the Act.

The proposed strict liability offences are regulatory in nature, and target regulatory requirements that are central to establishing and maintaining an effective "best-practice" framework for managing waste that aims to protect the environment and public health and safety:

- failing to segregate waste (s18);
- failing to keep waste in a waste container (s19);
- failing to maintain a waste container in a hygienic condition (s20);
- keeping waste in an unsightly condition (s21);
- failing to keep a waste container properly closed (s22); and
- failing to place or keep a waste container within the property boundary or at an approved location (s23).

#### (b) The importance of the purpose of the limitation

The purpose of providing a reverse onus of proof through strict liability offences is to ensure the effective enforcement of and compliance with key requirements in the Act and regulations. The limitation on the right to be presumed innocent in section 22(1) of the Human Rights Act is aimed at ensuring the effective operation of the regulatory framework.

#### (c) The nature and extent of the limitation

The strict liability offences engage the right to be presumed innocent by shifting the onus of proof from the prosecution onto a defendant. The requirements to which the offences apply are not burdensome in nature and generally relate to the appropriate, safe and effective storage, collection and disposal of waste.

The penalties are considered proportionate and not unduly harsh for offences of a regulatory nature.

### (d) Any less restrictive means reasonably available to achieve the purpose the limitation seeks to achieve

An evidential onus, rather than a strict liability offence, would be less restrictive on the right to be presumed innocent found in section 22(1) of the Human Rights Act. It would not, however, prove to be as effective in prosecuting the proposed offences. Strict liability offences provide that the defendant's act alone, rather than the reasons that the defendant acted in that way or his or her intention in so doing, should dictate the offence.

The inclusion of strict liability within an offence limits the range of defences that may be available for a person accused of the offence to which it applies; but a number of defences remain open to the accused, depending on the particular circumstances of each case. Section 23(1)(b) of the *Criminal Code 2002* provides a specific defence to strict liability offences of mistake of fact. Section 23(3) of the Code provides that other defences may also be available for strict liability offences, including the defence of intervening conduct or event, as provided by section 39 of the Code.

The use of strict liability offences for waste activity is appropriate because the offences apply to people who use and receive waste facilities and services. The Regulation places them on notice that they must abide by the laws that govern the activity. They place themselves in a relationship of responsibility with the broader community.

It is on this basis that the Government believes that the use of strict liability offences contained in the Regulation is

- relevant to the policy objectives of environment protection and community safety, both of which are demonstrably justifiable and reasonable; and
- comparable with strict liability provisions in regulations in other jurisdictions.

### Notes on clauses PART 1 PRELIMINARY

Licensing of waste facilities and registration of waste transporters

Critical to an effective waste management system is knowing what waste is going where and what is happening to it. The licensing and registration provisions require entities to provide sufficient information to the Waste Manager as would allow him or her to know how waste is being managed in the Territory. All Australian states require, in various forms, waste facilities to be licensed and waste transporters to be registered.

#### Offences

Part 4 of the Regulation contains a range of offence provisions carrying a penalty of 30 penalty units or less. The offences in clauses 18-22 and 24 are very similar to the offences in Parts 2 and 3 of the Waste Minimisation Regulation, which the Regulation replaces.

There are also several new offences in the Regulation which distinguish it from the Waste Minimisation Regulation. Specifically:

- Clause 14 establishes an offence of interfering with waste at a facility, without the consent of the licensee;
- Clause 15 requires waste transporters to comply with directions at a waste facility:
- Clause 16 relates to the improper transportation of waste, supporting waste leakage and spillage offences under the *Environment Protection Act 1997*:
- Clause17 allows for an authorised person to issue a rectification (compliance) notice to a person to rectify their conduct instead of incurring a penalty for an offence under Part 4, if found guilty of an offence. The intention is to educate a person alleged to have committed an offence against the Regulation about their legal obligations and provide them with the opportunity to rectify their conduct. This approach, along with a public education campaign about the Act and the Regulation, is intended to foster best-practice waste management practices throughout the ACT community in line with the objects and principles of the Act; and
- Clause 23 follows provisions in a number of other Australian jurisdictions in prescribing the location and storage of waste containers. This provision has been included to deal with limitations on location storage of waste containers in multi-unit developments.

The other offence provisions (clauses 18-22 and 24) mirror the offences in the Waste Minimisation Regulation and are not new, in substance.

The offence provisions in the Regulation will have a real impact only on people who breach their legal obligations, which are substantially behavioural rather than procedural. With the exception of clause 13, which allows for a maximum penalty of up to 30 penalty units for disposing of regulated waste at a licensed waste facility without the licensee's consent in circumstances where the person knows the licensee does not consent, the maximum penalty for each offence is relatively low (5-20 penalty units).

The offence provisions are designed to discourage irresponsible waste management practices which have the potential to cause any or all of the following:

- Contamination of waste or resource at a waste facility;
- Interference with waste at a waste facility;
- Unauthorised or illegal dumping of waste;
- Spillage of waste;
- Unauthorised mixing of waste; and
- Unhygienic and/or unsightly conditions.

#### Reporting

Reporting of waste activity is critical to informing the Government about the scale and scope of the waste management industry in the Territory. All other Australian states require waste management businesses (facilities and transporters) to report data on their activities.

The ACT Waste Management Strategy<sup>1</sup> identified a need for more effective management and regulation of waste. The Act and Regulation provide for a waste regulatory system to be established in the Territory. A reporting mechanism requiring the waste industry to collect and report data about the waste they deal with is critical to the management of waste and identifying opportunities to enhance resource recovery.

As the Minister for Territory and Municipal Services noted in her second reading speech in support of the Waste Management and Resource Recovery Bill 2016 in June 2016, 'To manage waste activity in a way that encourages recycling and recovery, while discouraging the sending of waste to landfill, we must have an understanding of where waste is being generated and where it is going...<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Environment and Sustainable Development Directorate, ACT Waste Management Strategy: Towards a sustainable Canberra 2011-2025

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> ACT Legislative Assembly, *Hansard*, June 7 2016, p 1716

The proposed waste reporting mechanism under clauses 25-26 will not impact on householders. Only waste management businesses will be required to collect and report information about the source of their waste, its composition and quantity, its destination (recycling, reuse or disposal) and information about vehicle registrations and the location of the source of the waste.

During industry consultation, a small number of responses indicated that the amount of information waste businesses would be required to report would potentially be administratively cumbersome for smaller waste facilities. particularly those without electronic waste recording systems and weighbridges.

To address this concern, subclause 25(2) of the Regulation gives the Waste Manager the flexibility to adapt the information some waste businesses are required to provide, subject to their infrastructure and capacity to provide the information.

It is anticipated that over time the reporting requirements will be adapted and streamlined as the profile of the waste industry is better understood. As the Minister highlighted in her second reading speech<sup>3</sup>, 'the content of reports may become more sophisticated over time as technology and business practices allow. In the short term, however, the burden of this requirement will be kept to a minimum'.

There will also be comprehensive industry consultation ahead of any changes to the reporting requirements to ensure they meet both the Government's waste policy objectives and do not unreasonably impact on the waste industry. The Government is investigating the possibility of an on-line waste reporting system which collects data in real time via a smart phone application. This sort of reporting mechanism would potentially result in less administrative burden for the regulated waste industry.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid

#### Part 1 Preliminary

#### Clause 1. Name of Regulation

This is a formal provision stating that the name of the regulation is the *Waste Management and Resource Recovery Regulation 2017.* 

#### Clause 2. Commencement

This is a formal provision stating that the Regulation commences on the commencement of the *Waste Management and Resource Recovery Act 2016*, section 128.

#### Clause 3. Dictionary

This is a formal provision stating that the dictionary at the end of the Regulation is part of the Regulation.

#### Clause 4. Notes

This is a formal provision stating that a note included in the Regulation is explanatory and not part of the Regulation.

### Clause 5. Offences against regulation – application of Criminal Code etc

Other legislation applies in relation to offences against the Regulation.

#### PART 2 Waste facility licences

#### Clause 6. Information for licence application – Act, s19(2)(b)

Clause 1 sets out the information that must be provided by a person in an application under Section 18 of the Act for a waste facility licence. For the purposes of paragraph 6(h) of the Regulation, the provision provides a number of examples to assist the applicant's understanding of how to describe the kind of waste activity to be conducted.

For the purposes of paragraph 6(i) of the Regulation, Schedule 1 to the Regulation sets out the categories of waste to be referred to in an application.

The information required to be provided is important to identify the entity seeking a waste facility licence, the land on which the facility is to be operated and the type of waste activity to be undertaken.

### Clause 7. Entities to be consulted before licence application decision – Act, s22(2)

This clause prescribes the entities to be consulted by the Waste Manager before approving an application for a licence under section 22 of the Act.

The Waste Manager must consult:

- (a) the chief officer (fire and rescue);
- (b) the environment protection authority;
- (c) if the application relates to a facility that will receive clinical waste the chief health officer.

The provision mandates cross agency consultation before a waste facility licence is issued by the Waste Manager so that the fire safety, public health and environmental impacts of a potential waste facility are considered prior to the issue of a licence.

#### PART 3 Waste transporter registration

#### Clause 8. Definitions – pt 3

Clause 8 defines the terms "manufacturer" and "model designation" for Part 3.

#### Clause 9. Information for registration application – Act, s31(2)(b)

Clause 9 sets out the information that must be provided by a person in an application under section 31 of the Act to be registered as a waste transporter.

For the purposes of paragraph 9(e) of the Regulation, Schedule 1 to the Regulation sets out the categories of waste to be referred to in an application.

The information required to be provided is important to identify the entity seeking a waste transporter registration, the land on which the facility is to be operated and the type of waste activity to be undertaken.

### Clause 10. Information for register of waste transporters – Act, s37(2)(a)

Clause 10 sets out the information that must be included in the register of waste transporters kept by the waste manager in accordance with section 37 of the Act. Under paragraph 37(2)(b) of the Act, the Waste Manager may also include any information the waste manager considers relevant.

The information required to be provided under clauses 10 and 11 is important for identifying the entity seeking to register as a waste transporter so that the movement of waste throughout the Territory can be monitored.

#### PART 4 Waste storage, collection, etc

#### Clause 11. Definitions – pt4

Clause 11 defines terms used in Part 4 of the Regulation.

#### Clause 12. Responsibilities and liabilities of joint occupiers

Clause 12 applies if, under subclause 17(1) of the Regulation, a rectification notice may be given to an occupier of premises in relation to a matter. The rectification notice may also be given to another occupier of the premises if the requirements in paragraphs 12(1)(a) and (b) are met.

Subclause 12(2) states that, if a proceeding is started against an occupier of premises for an offence under Part 4 of the Regulation, a proceeding for the same offence may also be started against another occupier of the premises.

Clause 12 ensures that a rectification notice may be given in relation to a waste at a premises, on reasonable grounds, if it is believed that an offence may have been committed in relation to waste at the premises, regardless of who is occupying the premises at the time a notice is issued.

#### Clause 13. Disposal of regulated waste at a waste facility

Clause 13 makes it an offence for a person to dispose of regulated waste at a waste facility where the licensee of the facility does not consent to the disposal and the person knows that the licensee does not consent. Regulated waste is waste with a higher potential to contain harmful characteristics. It is therefore important that any unauthorised disposal of this type of waste is specifically prohibited and subject to penalty.

#### Clause 14. Unauthorised conduct at waste facility – Act, s64(2)(e)

Clause 14 makes it an offence to interfere with waste at a waste facility, without the consent of the licensee of the facility and in the knowledge that the licensee does not consent.

The provision is designed to discourage people interfering with waste in a way that might cause waste to be contaminated, public health issues (for example if hazardous waste is removed from a waste facility), the devaluing of a potential resource or asset or the theft of property belonging to a waste facility operator.

### Clause 15. Waste transporter must comply with directions etc at waste facility – Act, s64(a)(c) and (e)

Clause 15 makes it an offence for a waste transporter to enter a waste facility to collect or dispose of waste and fail to do one or more of the things set out in paragraphs 15(c)(i) to (iv) if given reasonable directions by operator of the waste facility. Examples of "reasonable directions" are provided.

Clauses 13,14 and 15 were introduced to assist a waste facility operator to comply with their obligations under the Act and the Regulation by preventing rogue behaviour which might result in contamination of waste, threats to public health, the devaluing of a resource or asset belonging to a waste facility operator or licensee, theft or damage to facility machinery and other facility infrastructure, or the breach of a licence condition.

Clause 16. Waste escaping from vehicle or equipment – Act, s64(2)(c) Subclause 16(1) makes it an offence for a waste transporter to operate a vehicle or equipment to transport or collect waste when there is a reasonable likelihood that waste will escape from the vehicle or equipment.

Subclause 16(2) states that it is an offence if a waste transporter operates a vehicle or equipment to transport or collect waste, and waste escapes from the vehicle or equipment.

Maximum penalties of 20 penalty units apply to offences in this clause. Section 128 of the Act provides for a Regulation to create offences for contraventions of the regulations and fix penalties of not more than 40 penalty units.

Subclause 16(3) states that, if the person mentioned in subclause 16(1) or (2) is a partnership, then each partner in the partnership commits an offence. Subclause 16(4) sets out circumstances in which there is a defence to a prosecution for an offence under clause 16.

Subclause 16(5) defines terms used in clause16.

Clause 16 is similar to section 117 of the *Protection of the Environment Operations (Waste) Regulation 2014* (NSW) (Avoid escape of waste during transportation). It is notable that the NSW provision applies to <u>any person</u>, whereas the proposed ACT provision only applies to a waste transporter which is a waste management business, regulated under the Act. It does not apply to the general public as in NSW.

#### Clause 17. Waste rectification notice – Act, s64(2)(a) and (d)

Subclause 17(1) provides that an authorised person may give the occupier of premises a "waste rectification notice" if the authorised person believes the occupier's conduct is an offence under Part 4 of the Regulation.

Subclause 17(2) sets out what a waste rectification notice must state. The intention of the requirements is to ensure that a waste rectification notice identifies the premises and the occupier, the conduct that is alleged to be an offence, the action required to address the conduct, the time within which the notice should be complied with, and the potential consequences of failing to comply.

Subclause 17(3) sets out requirements for determining the compliance day for a notice.

Subclause 17(4) states that if the identity of the occupier of the premises is not known, the notice may be addressed to 'the occupier' or 'the householder'.

Sublcause 17 mirrors provisions in NSW legislation for the issuing of a rectification or compliance notice by an authorised person in the first instance, under appropriate circumstances, rather than the authorised person seeking to prosecute a person:

- s96 Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 (NSW) called a "Notice of Preventative Action"
- s125 Environment Protection Act 1997 (ACT) called an "Environment Protection Order"

It is noteworthy that most Australian jurisdictions have a waste rectification or compliance notice regime.

The following clauses, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22 and 24, essentially mirror existing clauses in the Waste Minimisation Regulation and are directed towards mandating minimum standards of conduct for households in relation to the management of the wastes they produce. They are standards with which the reasonable person can easily comply; regulatory action is only likely to be taken against persistent or recalcitrant offenders in a small number of cases.

#### Clause 18. Waste segregation – Act, s64(2)(a) and (d)

Subclause 18(1) states that it is an offence for a person to place waste in a "domestic waste container" if the waste is not "domestic waste".

Subclause 18(2) states that it is an offence for a person to place waste in a "domestic recyclable waste container" if the waste is not "domestic recyclable waste".

Subclause 18(3) states that it is an offence for a person to place waste in a green waste container if the waste is not "garden waste". "Domestic waste" is defined in the Dictionary to the Regulation.

An offence against clause 18 is a strict liability offence.

Note: A definition of domestic waste is included in the Dictionary to the Regulation.

Clause 19. Failure to keep waste in waste container – Act, s64(2)(d) Subclause 19(1) states that it is an offence for an occupier of premises to keep waste on premises if the waste is not in a waste container where that waste could reasonably be expected to be kept in a waste container.

An offence against clause 19 is a strict liability offence.

#### Clause 20. Unhygienic waste container – Act, s64(2)(d)

Subclause 20(1) states that it is an offence for an occupier of premises to keep waste on premises when the container is in an unhygienic condition or causes unhygienic conditions.

The term "unhygienic condition" is defined in subclause 20(3).

An offence against clause 20 is a strict liability offence.

#### Clause 21. Unsightly waste – Act, s64(2)(d)

Subclause 21(1) states that it is an offence for an occupier of premises to keep waste on premises when the waste, or a significant part of the waste, is clearly visible from other premises (including land that is accessible to the public) and is unsightly.

An offence against clause 21 is a strict liability offence.

#### Clause 22. Waste container not closed – Act, s64(2)(d)

Subclause 22(1) states that it is an offence if an occupier of premises fails to ensure that the lid of a waste container is closed if the waste container contains waste.

Subclause 22(3) states that the offence in subclause 22(1) does not apply if the waste container is placed in a public area for use by members of the public.

An offence against clause 22 is a strict liability offence

#### Clause 23. Location of waste container – Act, s64(2)(d)

Subclause 23(1) states that it is an offence for an occupier of premises to store waste in a waste container and fails to ensure that the container is kept within the property boundary other than when the container is placed for collection by a waste collection service, when it must be placed in a manner that the access to the waste container by the waste collection service is not obstructed.

Subclause 23(3) states that the offence of failing to keep a container within the boundary for the premises (or such other place as is approved) does not apply if the container has been removed from that place for collection by a waste collection service, has been removed from the place for a reasonable period before or after the scheduled time for collection of waste, or if the container has been damaged or is unwanted, it has been placed for collection of the container.

Subclause 23(4) states that the offence of failing to ensure that a waste container is placed so that a waste collection service has unobstructed access to the container does not apply if reasonable steps were taken to ensure that unobstructed access for the waste collection service was provided.

The term "waste collection day" is defined in subclause 23(5).

An offence against clause 23 is a strict liability offence.

#### Clause 24. Permission to enter premises – Act, s64(2)(e)

Clause 25 provides that an employee or agent of a waste collection service may, at any reasonable time, enter premises to carry out the service. The provision provides that *premises* does not include any building, part of a building or structure used as living quarters so as to ensure the protection of people's privacy and human rights.

#### PART 5 Reporting

#### Clause 25. Waste activity report information – Act, s65(2)(a)

Clause 25 provides that waste facility licensees and registered waste transporters must report their waste activities. However, the Waste Manager has the discretion to exempt a waste business from some or all of the reporting requirements, where the Waste Manager believes that the business does not have the capacity or infrastructure to provide all of the information required by the provision.

Under section 65 of the Act, a report must be given to the Waste Manager not later than 1 month after the end of each quarterly reporting period.

# Clause 26 Reporting period for waste activity report – Act, s65(3) Clause 26 states that the reporting period for the purposes for section 65(3) of the Act is each quarter.

Clauses 26 and 27 were included because reporting of waste management activity is critical to the Government's objective of managing the movement and treatment of waste and identifying opportunities to enhance recycling and resource recovery.

#### PART 6 Miscellaneous

#### Clause 28. Waste quantification – Act, s65

Clause 28 sets out a method for quantifying waste when records relating to the waste are inadequate, to decide a fee that is payable or for the purposes of the Waste Manager verifying information in a waste activity report required under section 65 of the Act. Clause 28 apples whether waste was collected or received by a waste facility before, on or after the commencement of the section.

Paragraph 28(1)(c) states that the provision apples if presumptions must be made about:

- (i) whether waste was collected or received at a waste facility:
- (ii) when the waste was collected or received;
- (iii) the source of the waste that was collected or received;
- (iv) the amount of waste collected or received.

Subclause 28(2) sets out the circumstances in which records relating to waste do not exist or are inadequate.

Subclause 28(3) states that the Waste Manager may presume that waste at a waste facility was received by the facility in the course of business, and that waste was collected or received on the day that the Waste Manager decides that the records are inadequate.

Subclause 28(4) sets out methods that may be used by the Waste Manager to estimate the number of tonnes of waste transported by a waste transporter or received by a waste facility.

Subclause 28(5) empowers the Waste Manager to direct a licensee to arrange for a volumetric survey to be carried out by a registered surveyor, to provide a copy of the survey to the Waste Manager or to comply with any other condition reasonably related to carrying out the survey.

Subclause 28(6) states that, if the Waste Manager relies on a volumetric survey to estimate the tonnage of waste, the Waste Manager must either take each 2 cubic metres of waste to weigh 1 tonne or apply another method that the Waste Manager is satisfied will provide a more accurate estimate.

The provision was included in order to quantify waste for the purpose of establishing waste collection fees payable or for the reporting of waste activity in order to ascertain the volume of waste being handled in the Territory. In a small number of cases, waste operators deliberately fail to keep records of waste in order to avoid charges (eg. Waste Levies). This provision is designed to provide a level regulatory playing field regarding the imposition of waste charges, in the event some operators decide to circumvent the charging system by deliberately failing to keep accurate records of their waste.

#### Schedule 1 Waste categories

Schedule 1 sets out categories of waste for the purposes of the Act.

#### **Dictionary**

The Dictionary defines terms used in the Regulation.