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10. Waste Management

10.1 Domestic Waste

One submission raised the concern that the influx of people onto Hummock Hill Island would result in increased littering and would have an impact on environmental values.

As stated in Section 11.3.2 of the EIS, it is recognised that domestic and general waste will be the largest waste stream generated during operation of the HHI Development. Section 11.4 of the EIS describes the management and mitigation measures for waste on Hummock Hill Island which focus on managing waste through the waste hierarchy. The proposed mitigation measures include:

- wastes to be managed in accordance with the *Environmental Protection (Waste Management) Policy 2000*;
- waste avoidance, minimisation, reuse and recycling principles to be utilised wherever possible;
- wastes to be segregated to assist in recovery and recycling;
- solid or hazardous wastes will not be disposed of on Hummock Hill Island, but will go to dedicated landfills with capacity to accept waste of this nature;
- in order to reduce waste volumes, where possible, all wastes generated from operational activities will be reused on site or sent to recyclers. Disposal to appropriately licensed waste facilities will only be undertaken where reuse or recycling is not possible or feasible;
- where appropriate, waste generators will be encouraged to segregate wastes at the source to minimise cross contamination of waste streams;
- waste will only be transported by appropriately licensed waste transporters;
- colour-coded and/or labelled bins will be provided for each waste stream to assist in the segregation of wastes and maximise waste recovery and recycling. These bins will be located at temporary waste compounds to be designed and located at each residential lot, tourist resort and commercial area. These temporary bin compounds will be designed and located to ensure that they are easily accessible from each part of the building and from the collection point and includes adequate access and manoeuvring space, at least an area equivalent to the combined footprint of the bins;
- plastic waste will be kept to a minimum and retail outlets will be encouraged to promote or supply alternatives to plastic bags such as biodegradable or cotton bags. Any plastic waste generated will be recycled, where possible;
- records of waste quantities removed from Hummock Hill Island are to be maintained;
- a waste audit will be conducted when the HHI Development is operational and when each new stage of development becomes operational. The purpose of the waste audit will be to identify:
 - types and volumes of wastes generated;
 - further opportunities for waste avoidance, reuse reduction and recycling;
 - waste storage and segregation methods;
 - waste treatment and disposal techniques; and
 - destination of waste materials.



10.1.1 Landfill

One submission asked whether the Benaraby Landfill had capacity to take waste from the HHI Development.

As discussed in Section 11.2.6 and 11.3.1.3 of the EIS, the Benaraby Landfill is capable of accepting construction and demolition wastes and provides recycling where possible at the Waste Transfer Station. Alternatively there are licensed waste collectors in the region that can collect, segregate and recycle most waste streams generated during the construction of the proposed HHI Development.

Benaraby Landfill has enough capacity to accommodate the waste generated from HHI Development and future growth in the southern part of the Gladstone Regional Council area.

10.1.2 Waste Transfer Stations

One submission claimed that just because waste bins are different colours at the transfer station does not mean that the public will place the waste in the correct bins. The submitter questioned whether the transfer station would be staffed by Council, as such incurring a cost to ratepayers.

It appears that the submitter may have confused the waste transfer station at the Benaraby Landfill and the waste collection points within the HHI Development that will provide colour-coded and/or labelled bins for each waste stream to assist in the segregation of wastes and maximise waste recovery and recycling.

The waste collection points on Hummock Hill Island will not be staffed and will be managed as any other commercial or domestic waste collection is within the region. The waste transfer station at the Benaraby Landfill is currently managed by the Gladstone Regional Council and will not require additional staffing as a result of the HHI Development. Gladstone Regional Council has developed a set of general rules and regulations for users of the Benaraby Landfill to encourage correct waste disposal methods, and to assist you in using the Landfill site safely. For example, construction waste that is delivered to the site unsorted will attract high fees to offset the cost of segregation and a penalty rate of twice the normal charge will be applied to mixed loads containing 50% or more of recyclable material. This is designed to encourage customers to sort their waste prior to bringing it to the site.

10.2 Wastewater Treatment and Disposal

A number of submissions raised concern about the management and release of wastewater from the HHI Development to sensitive environments. In particular, submitters requested further detail about the treatment process, reuse for irrigation and release into marine environments.

Section 7 of the Supplementary Report provides a description of the wastewater treatment process and Section 13 provides further detail on potential impacts of wastewater on marine environments.