

Waste tracking

for waste transporters

Waste tracking helps stamp out illegal dumping, prevents waste going to the wrong facility and stops unfair competition.

The Waste Regulation has been amended and simplified, making it easier for industry to comply with the requirements. The amended regulation, Protection of the Environment Operations (Waste) Regulation 2005, came into effect on 1 March 2006.

The following information will help you understand your responsibilities as a waste transporter and determine what you need to do to comply with the Waste Regulation.

What are your responsibilities for tracking waste?

Waste transporters are responsible for ensuring that high-risk waste is transported only after all the necessary documents and checks have been completed.

What are the types of waste that must be tracked?

The types of waste that must be tracked are listed in Schedule 1 of the Waste Regulation. The Department of Environment and Climate Change NSW (DECC) may issue an exemption in relation to one or more of the waste tracking requirements. For more information see the fact sheets *Characterising your waste* and *Waste that must be tracked*.

What is a consignment authorisation?

A consignment authorisation is issued to a waste consignor (either a waste producer or their authorised agent) by DECC or by an approved receiving facility. It allows the transport of specified

waste from a consignor to a receiving facility. It can cover multiple loads and remain valid for up to one year. A separate transport certificate must accompany each load of waste transported.

What is a transport certificate?

A waste transport certificate is a document containing required information about a load of waste and must accompany that load of waste during transport. It includes information about the waste, the consignor, transporter and receiving facility. Users of the DECC's online waste tracking system can create a transport certificate using the system.

What if the waste is transported out of NSW?

If the waste is to be transported out of NSW, ensure that the consignment authorisation is valid for the destination state or territory. See the *Transporting waste interstate or overseas* fact sheet.

If you are transporting waste to another state or territory, you must comply with the laws of the state or territory that you pass through once you leave NSW. The 5-docket transport certificates available from DECC are valid for waste transported from NSW to other states and territories.



Transporting waste to a licensed receiving facility

What happens if you don't comply with the Regulation?

If waste is illegally dumped and harms the environment, the maximum penalty is \$5 000 000 or a 7-year jail sentence.

The maximum penalty for supplying false or misleading information about waste is \$250 000.

The maximum penalty for transporting waste, or causing waste to be transported to a place that cannot lawfully receive waste, is \$1 000 000.

What do you need to do?

Before transporting waste from one place to another you **must**:

- ensure that there is a consignment authorisation for the waste movement
- ensure that there is a completed waste transport certificate for the load of waste
- carry the waste transport certificate in your vehicle.

Remove the waste from the vehicle **only** after:

- you provide the waste transport certificate to the receiving facility
- the receiving facility agrees that the waste can be unloaded, or
- you are directed to remove the waste by an authorised officer.

If you transfer the waste from one vehicle to another **check** that you:

- record the transfer on the waste transport certificate
- give the waste transport certificate to the driver of the vehicle carrying the waste.

If the receiving facility does not accept the waste, **check** that the receiving facility:

- signs the waste transport certificate stating that they have rejected the waste

- advises you to take the waste to another receiving facility that can legally accept it, or to take it back to the waste consignor.

If the receiving facility does not nominate another receiving facility, **you should** either:

- take the waste to another receiving facility that can legally accept the waste, or
- take the waste back to the waste producer where the waste was collected from, and, in either case
- advise DECC that the waste was rejected and indicate where you are taking the waste.

What records do you need to keep?

Waste transporters who do not use an approved online tracking system must keep copies of waste transport certificates for at least 4 years.

If you use an approved online tracking system you may not need to keep certain records such as copies of transport certificates. Most notifications required under the regulation can be done online using the DECC online tracking system.

What is the online tracking system?

Online tracking helps reduce the burden of paperwork on businesses, and makes enforcement and compliance easier. For example, businesses tracking waste movements online are not required to submit quarterly reports, as DECC can automatically collate the required data.

The DECC online tracking system can be used for waste transported within NSW or into NSW from other states or territories.

Find out more about the online tracking system at: www.environment.nsw.gov.au/owt/index.htm

Related fact sheets

- Waste tracking for waste producers
- Waste tracking for receiving facilities
- Waste tracking for authorised agents
- Online waste tracking
- Characterising your waste
- Waste that must be tracked
- Transporting waste interstate or overseas

If you are also the authorised agent for a waste producer(s), you should see the *Waste tracking for authorised agents* fact sheet for information about your responsibilities as an agent.

