



Highlands
Regional Waste
Management
Group

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

AUGUST 2008

The Highlands Regional Waste Management Group (HRWMG) is committed to a future in which all Victorians are living sustainably within their natural and built environs.

The HRWMG will focus on sustainability as a key driver in its own activities and to be leaders in best practise environmental management. To do this we will establish appropriate procedures and practices to minimize the consumption of energy, water and other resources including paper; and to minimise the generation of waste. These will include:

- a) Reducing waste and maximising recycling;
- b) Reducing the energy, water and paper intensity of our operations;
- c) Purchasing Green Power;
- d) Reducing greenhouse gas emissions associated with our passenger vehicle fleet;
- e) Ensuring that all contracts incorporate sustainability principles;
- f) Making environmentally sound purchasing decisions;
 - I. Purchasing decisions will be made in the context of the waste hierarchy to reduce, reuse and recycle,
 - II. Purchase energy and water efficient products,
 - III. Where possible, purchase local products,
 - IV. Purchase paper with greater than 50% recycled content,
 - V. Purchasing decisions will be made on the basis of value for money rather than just the cheapest up-front price,
 - VI. Support businesses that also have sound environmental management systems,
- g) Adopting a zero tolerance for litter from our activities;
- h) Communicating our environmental performance regularly;
- i) Striving for continual improvement in our environmental performance;
- j) Recognising that all staff and Board members have a responsibility to assist the HRWMG to meet these commitments; and
- k) A smoke free workplace.

HRWMG will comply with all relevant Government environmental management policy, practices, regulations and legislation.

Cr. Stephen Jones
Chairperson