

Landfill Levy Policy

Landfill levies are a financial instrument that are designed and implemented to encourage the recovery of resources that might otherwise be disposed of at landfill. With Queensland's recent announcement of a levy to be introduced, WRIQ has updated its policy on a landfill levy and the parameters under which it is introduced.

WRIQ POSITION

1. If implemented, landfill levies should be part of a clearly articulated state waste management and recycling strategy and be subject to regular performance review against landfill diversion targets.
2. Landfill levies and their governing regulations should be a permanent instrument.
3. Landfill levies should be straightforward to implement and administer and be designed to minimise fraud risk. This includes the reporting, administration and payment of levies.
4. Landfill levies should have only essential exemptions and avoid differentiation by waste source or generation to avoid distorting waste collection and disposal activities and markets.
5. Landfill levies should be consistent across the largest jurisdiction practical, and ideally be applied in a manner that minimises transport away from levy regions.
6. Landfill levies should not be applied to any recycled or composted material, i.e., material that does not go to landfill.
7. Landfill levies should not have an adverse economical impact on recycling or composting.
8. Landfill levies should not be applied on waste volumes subject to bad debts.
9. Landfill levy income for the state should be hypothecated to the development of the waste and recycling industry through education, promotion, landfill diversion initiatives and new waste infrastructure.
10. The state government should provide final landfill levy regulation details in sufficient time prior to the commencement date to allow for government and industry to redesign systems.