

# PORT NOTICE

## Waste Management

### PN/022

**OPS-LEG-22**

**General Manager, Operations**

## PREFACE

This Port Notice is issued pursuant to Section 57 of the *Ports Management Act 2015 (NT)* to maintain and improve the safe, secure, and efficient operation of Darwin Port facilities in relation to waste management.

## SCOPE

Waste management and recycling at East Arm Wharf, Fort Hill Wharf and Port of Darwin.

## DEFINITIONS

Term	Definition
<b>Biosecurity Waste</b>	Material from international vessels that presents a risk of introducing diseases or pests.
<b>Listed Waste</b>	Waste specified in Schedule 2 of the <i>Waste Management and Pollution Control (Administration) Regulations 1998 (NT)</i> .
<b>Litter</b>	Litter as defined in the <i>Litter Act 1972 (NT)</i> being litter, garbage, rubbish, refuse or waste matter, and includes the body of a dead animal.
<b>Port User</b>	An individual or a company accessing Fort Hill Wharf or East Arm Wharf or accessing services or undertaking activities in the Port of Darwin.
<b>Waste</b>	Waste as defined in the <i>Waste Management and Pollution Control Act 1998 (NT)</i> being: (a) a solid, a liquid or a gas; or (b) a mixture of such substances that is or are left over, surplus or an unwanted by-product from any activity (whether or not the substance is of value) and includes a prescribed substance or class of substances.

## OBJECTIVES

Waste is generated on vessels, during cargo operations, and by Port Users generally in their day-to-day operations. General Waste must be disposed of through normal methods.

Listed Waste, such as oil, requires a licenced waste contractor to collect; transport and dispose of it to an EPA licensed facility. Biosecurity Wastes have specific controls set by the Commonwealth Government.

The objectives of this Port Notice are to:

- Prevent Litter;
- Ensure that general Waste is managed and disposed of appropriately;
- Ensure that Listed Waste is handled, transported and disposed of safely by licenced waste contractors;
- Ensure that Biosecurity Waste is handled, transported and disposed of in accordance with Commonwealth Government biosecurity requirements;
- Ensure that Port Users recycle materials where feasible; and
- Minimise loose materials that may become wind-blown during strong wind events.

## CONTROLS

Port Users must comply with the following controls:

## LITTER

Common Litter includes paper, plastic, food, drink containers and cigarette butts but can be any Litter item. Litter can be prevented through access to suitable garbage bins, managing cargo packaging and education of Port Users. Gusts of wind at the wharf can cause any unsecured items to enter the water with little chance of ever being recovered.

Port Users must:

- Provide rubbish bins/skips, these must be lidded to prevent wind-blown Litter and access by birds;
- Keep their leased, licensed and operating areas free from Litter;
- Remove all rubbish offsite for disposal; and
- Inform and instruct their employees and contractors of these requirements and ensure their employees and contractors comply with these requirements.

Port Users must not:

- Cause Litter;
- Place rubbish in locations where it may become Litter;
- Allow cargo packaging and other materials to weather, deteriorate and break free from cargo, or otherwise become Litter.

## GENERAL WASTE

General Waste includes solid wastes such as paper, plastics, timber, fabrics, steel, and concrete that are normally deposited into garbage bins and skip bins for disposal at landfill. Some of these wastes are able to be recycled.

Port Users must:

- Provide suitable and enough garbage bins and skip bins for any Waste generated;
- Where feasible, ensure that Waste is separated for reuse or recycling; and
- Remove Waste offsite for disposal within reasonable timeframes.

Port Users must not:

- Dispose of Waste onsite;
- Place Listed Wastes in with general Waste; and
- Allow Waste to cause odours, leak fluids onto the ground, harbour flies or other pests.

## LISTED WASTE

Listed Waste includes oils, asbestos, acids, grease trap, sewage sludge, tyres, and many more. Listed Waste can only be received, transported and disposed of by a licensed waste contractor. Details of licensed waste contractors can be found on the Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority (EPA) website.

Port Users must:

- Make arrangements with their licensed waste contractor to collect and transport Listed Waste offsite within a reasonable time;

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- Contain Listed Waste within suitable containers that minimise the risk of spills;
- Store in areas that contain or otherwise prevent the Listed Waste from polluting soil or the harbour, these include bunded areas, bunded pallets, sheds with contained drainage;
- Supervise or otherwise secure Listed Wastes so they are not damaged or inadvertently handled by people not authorised to do so;
- Ensure containers for Listed Wastes and liquid waste are:
  - Made from a material compatible with the waste (e.g. acid waste not stored in steel drums);
  - In good condition with properly fitted sealing lids and otherwise not leaking;
  - Clean on external surfaces;
  - Properly labelled with original label removed or obscured and a correct label for the waste attached; and
  - Only filled to a level that allows for thermal expansion without overflow;
- Maintain adequate spill clean-up equipment which is readily accessible.

Port Users must not:

- Accept, store, handle or transport Listed Waste contrary to the Waste Management and Pollution Control Act 1998 (NT) and Regulations.

#### **BIOSECURITY WASTE AND WASTE FROM VESSELS**

Waste on vessels from international voyages (or vessels classified as a biosecurity risk) is subject to the Biosecurity Act 2015(Cth) which has specific requirements with regards to storage, refrigeration, transportation and disposal. Such Biosecurity Waste must be sealed in garbage bags when removed from a vessel.

Port Users must manage Biosecurity Waste in accordance with the Biosecurity Act 2015 (Cth) and the following requirements:

- Prior arrangements must be made with a Biosecurity Waste approved contractor to collect or suitably store the Waste prior to the vessel departure. Several days' notice may be required by waste contractors to ensure resources are available to collect or suitably store Waste;
- General Waste from vessels must be in sealed garbage bags and placed in the Waste bins provided by the waste contractor;
- Other Waste due to its size, volume or particular risks must be managed in accordance with any specific biosecurity requirements and directions;
- Waste oils and other liquids must be stored and handled in containers that are:
  - Made from a material that is not incompatible with the Waste;
  - In good condition with properly fitted sealing lids and otherwise not leaking;
  - Clean on external surfaces;
  - Properly labelled with original label removed or obscured and a correct label for the Waste attached; and
  - Filled to a level that allows for thermal expansion without leaking;
- Prior to the vessel departing this Waste must be transported offsite, or properly stored in accordance with biosecurity requirements;
- Waste may be stored in a secure, enclosed area (i.e. enclosed trailer or container) for up to a maximum of 48 hours at ambient temperatures; and

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- Waste may be stored for more than 48 hours in a refrigerated container.
- Any waste stored at a Darwin Port Facility needs approval from the Darwin Ports Senior Manager Landside Operations or delegate.

## **ABANDONED WASTE**

Waste on the wharf that has been abandoned or where there is insufficient labelling to locate the owner, must be disposed of. Abandoned Waste within a licensed or leased area must be disposed of by the licensee/lessee.

Port Users must:

- Store Waste so it is secure and identifiable (owner and type);
- Report any potential abandoned Waste to Darwin Port; and
- Follow the abandoned Waste process set out below where required.

Port Users must not:

- Store Waste in common user areas, unless approved by Darwin Ports Senior Manager Landside Operations or delegate in writing.

Port Users must comply with the following abandoned Waste process:

- Promptly report any potential abandoned Waste to Darwin Port;
- Attempt to locate the owner or generator of the Waste;
- Secure the Waste to prevent unauthorised access and to prevent any spills;
- Where the Waste is a known material and does not present a safety risk, dispose of the Waste in the appropriate way;
- Abandoned Waste that may present a hazard should only be handled and transported offsite by a licenced waste contractor;
- Where there is a potential impact to human health or a hazardous material incident, the Fire Brigade must be immediately notified for advice or response;
- Abandoned Waste that can be identified and does not present a hazard can be managed and disposed of in the normal way; and
- Where there is a potential breach of the Waste Management and Pollution Control Act 1998 (NT) the EPA should be notified.

## **RECYCLING**

Recycling or reuse of materials must be undertaken where practical, with consideration to volume, storage requirements, recycling service availability, environmental benefit and cost. Information and recycling services for the Darwin area can be found on the website [www.recyclingnearyou.com.au/](http://www.recyclingnearyou.com.au/) Port Users must recycle materials where practical.

Darwin Port recycles:

- Ferrous metals;
- Aluminium alloy metals;
- Plastic milk bottles, tin cans, aluminium cans;
- Cardboard;

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- Paper;
- Mineral Oil;
- Lead acid batteries; and
- Printer cartridges.

## **NON-COMPLIANCE**

Darwin Port reserves the right to remove persons from its facilities if it is found their actions or anticipated actions may reasonably cause a safety, environment, security or operational incident. A Darwin Port Enforcement Officer may, at any time, confiscate a port pass or certificate.

## **REVIEW STATEMENT**

This Port Notice will be reviewed biennially by the Port Management Officer.

## **REFERENCES**

- *Ports Management Act 2015 (NT)*
- *Environment Protection Act 2019 (NT)*
- *Waste Management and Pollution Control Act 1998 (NT)*
- *Waste Management and Pollution Control (Administration) Regulations 1998 (NT)*
- *Litter Act 1972 (NT)*
- *Marine Pollution Act 1999 (NT)*
- *Marine Pollution Regulations 2003 (NT)*
- *Biosecurity Act 2015 (Cth)*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Dummett'.

**PETER DUMMETT**  
**Port Operator**  
**Darwin Port**  
**4 December 2023**