

Waste tracking guideline

Consignment authorities (interstate/territory movement of wastes)

The National Environmental Protection (Movement of Controlled Waste between States and Territories) Measure 1998 (NEPM) provides a national framework for developing and integrating state and territory systems for managing the movement of trackable (controlled) wastes between states and territories. The NEPM is implemented under the Queensland *Environmental Protection Act 1994* through of the Environmental Protection Regulation 2008 (the Regulation).

The Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (the department) assesses applications for the movement of trackable wastes into Queensland under s81X of the Regulation and supports other states and territories through their assessment of proposed movements of trackable waste from Queensland into their jurisdiction.

Definitions

Consignment number—is an approval from the administering authority in the destination state or territory for the movement of a trackable waste to a receiving facility in that jurisdiction.

Prescribed information—means the information stated in Schedule 2F of the Regulation, which a waste handler must record or give to another waste handler or to the department. This requirement is met by correctly completing the relevant part(s) of the waste transport certificate.

Trackable wastes—means a regulated waste of a type mentioned in Schedule 2E of the Regulation. Note: A trackable waste is also known as controlled waste in other jurisdictions.

Movement of trackable wastes into Queensland

Prior to transporting a trackable waste into Queensland, a person must apply for (and be granted) an approval to transport the waste into Queensland. The department assesses such applications under s81X of the Regulation and if granted a consignment number is issued to the applicant for the load. It is an offence to transport trackable waste into Queensland without a consignment number.

Waste transporter responsibilities:

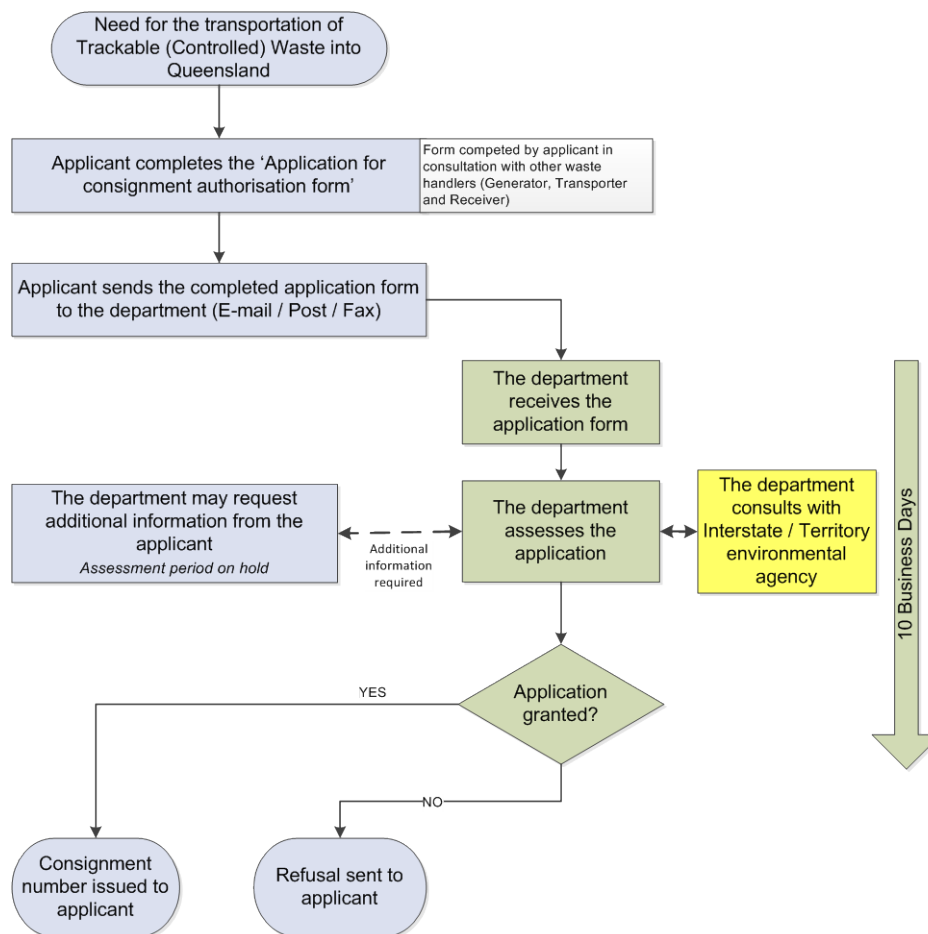
- Only transport trackable waste when a consignment number has been issued.
- Obtain from the generator the prescribed information about the waste.
- Carry the prescribed information about the waste.
- Give the prescribed information about the waste to the waste receiver.
- Report any discrepancies in information within seven days of becoming aware of the discrepancy to the department by written notice.
- Keep records of the prescribed information for at least five years.

Waste receiver responsibilities:

- Record the prescribed information about the waste.
- Give the prescribed information about the waste to the department on a fully completed waste transport certificate.
- Report any discrepancies in information within seven days of becoming aware of the discrepancy to the department by written notice.
- Keep records of the prescribed information for at least five years.

Figure 1 provides an overview of the application and assessment process for the issuing of consignment numbers.

Figure 1 – Assessment of consignment applications for waste movements into Queensland



Movement of trackable wastes out of Queensland

When a trackable waste is moved out of Queensland to a disposal or treatment facility in another state or territory, the jurisdiction receiving the waste must authorise its acceptance before transportation and issue a consignment number. Under Queensland legislation:

- the waste generator must:
 - record the prescribed information about the waste onto the Queensland Interstate Waste Transport Certificate and give this information to the transporter
 - forward a copy of the waste transport certificate to the department
 - keep records of the transport for at least five years
 - only give trackable waste to an authorised waste transporter.
- the waste transporter must:
 - carry a copy of the prescribed information with the load of waste
 - report any discrepancy in information within seven days of becoming aware of the discrepancy to the department by written notice
 - keep records of the prescribed information for at least five years.

Waste handlers should contact the environmental agency in the receiving jurisdiction for further information on the relevant application and assessment processes relevant to the transport of a trackable waste out of Queensland.

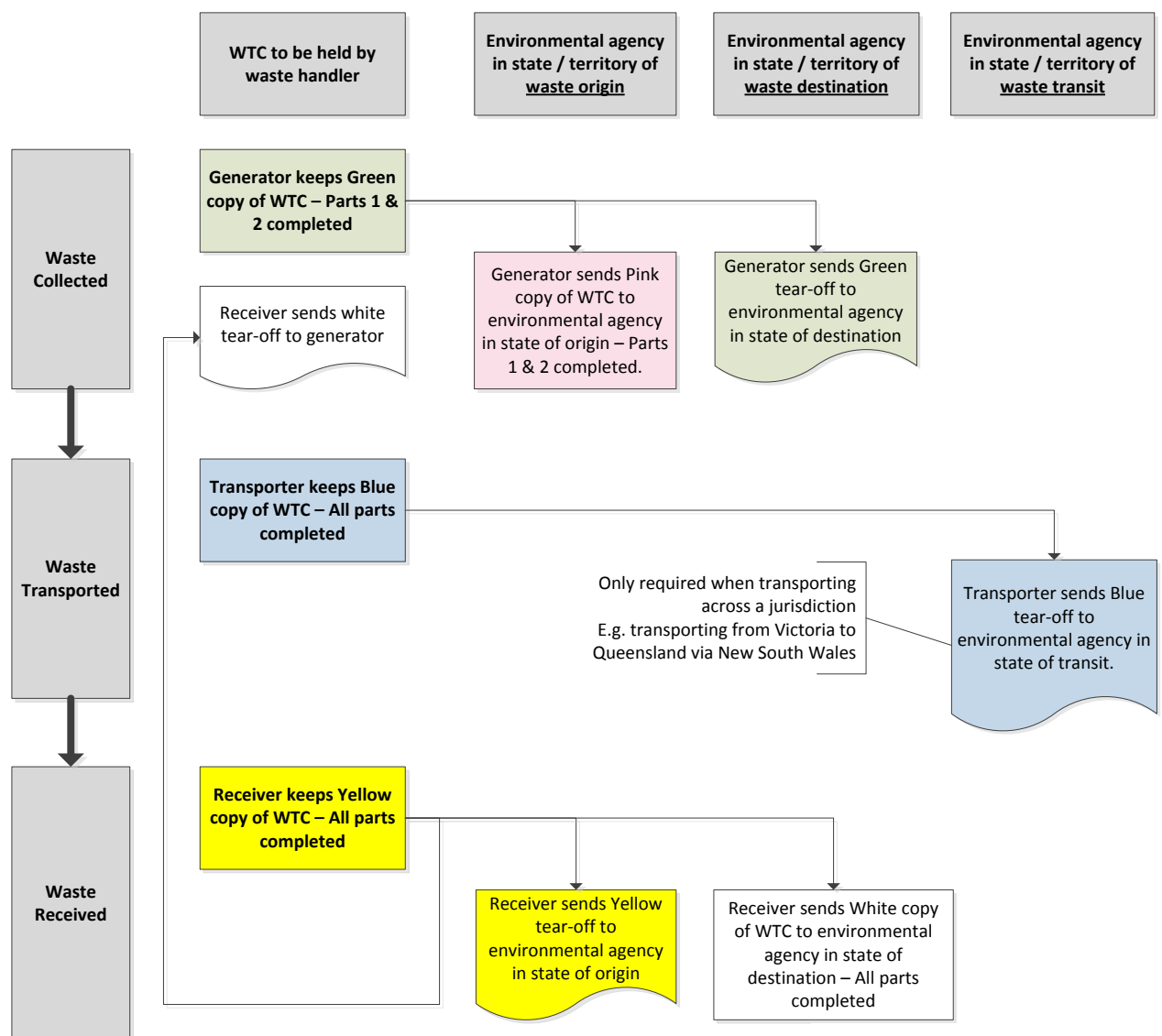
Recognition of waste transportation approvals issued by other jurisdictions

For the purpose of the movement of trackable waste between states and territories only, the department will recognise an approval to transport such waste which has been issued by the state/territory jurisdiction where the transporter is established for business purposes.

Distribution of waste transport certificates

When transporting trackable wastes between states and territories, the interstate waste transport certificate is to be used; this certificate also includes a tear-off at the bottom of the certificate. These certificates are obtained from the environmental agency in the jurisdiction of waste origin. The distribution of the relevant copies of these interstate certificates and the tear-offs are provided in Figure 2.

Figure 2 – Distribution of copies of waste transport certificates (WTCs)



Penalties

The Regulation allows for penalties of up to 20 penalty units¹ to be imposed if waste tracking information is not recorded, retained or provided to the department as required or if trackable waste is given to an unauthorised transporter. Penalties can be imposed through on-the-spot fines or may involve prosecution. There are also significant penalties under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* for providing false or misleading documents to the department and for transporting a trackable waste without the appropriate authority.

Related information

[Application for consignment authorisation form](#)

More information

For more information visit the department's website www.ehp.qld.gov.au, phone the department's Trackable Waste Regulation and Support Unit on (07) 3330 5677 or email waste.track@ehp.qld.gov.au.

Disclaimer

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¹ At the time of publication; a Penalty Unit is \$113.85 and is subject to periodic change.