

Waste Reduction and Recycling Amendment Regulation 2024

Human Rights Certificate

Prepared in accordance with Part 3 of the *Human Rights Act 2019*

In accordance with section 41 of the *Human Rights Act 2019*, I, Leanne Linard, Minister for the Environment and the Great Barrier Reef and Minister for Science and Innovation provide this human rights certificate with respect to the *Waste Reduction and Recycling Amendment Regulation 2024* made under the *Waste Reduction and Recycling Act 2011*.

In my opinion, the *Waste Reduction and Recycling Amendment Regulation 2024*, as tabled in the Legislative Assembly, is compatible with the human rights protected by the *Human Rights Act 2019*. I base my opinion on the reasons outlined in this statement.

Overview of the Subordinate Legislation

The *Waste Reduction and Recycling Act 2011* (the Act) provides for annual payments to local governments who incur a levy liability as a result of disposing of municipal solid waste to landfill.

Section 73DA of the Act states that a regulation may prescribe an amount, for a financial year, that is paid to a local government affected by the waste levy, and that the chief executive must pay the amount to the local government.

The Act also makes provision for wastes to be exempt wastes, either directly listed in section 26 of the Act or prescribed in the *Waste Reduction and Recycling Regulation 2023* (the Regulation). The levy exemption for alum sludge is prescribed in section 8 of the Regulation and expires on 30 June 2024.

The *Waste Reduction and Recycling Amendment Regulation 2024* amends the Regulation to:

- prescribe annual payment adjustment amounts for the seven regional councils of Cairns, Townsville, Mackay, Rockhampton, Gladstone, Bundaberg and Fraser Coast to return the percentage paid to 100 per cent for the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 financial years;
- prescribe annual payment adjustments for relevant levy-impacted councils to correct a baseline calculation error for the 2025-2026 financial year; and
- extend the waste disposal levy exemption of alum sludge or other residuals produced as a result of drinking water treatment processes until 30 June 2029.

Human Rights Issues

Human rights relevant to the subordinate legislation (Part 2, Division 2 and 3 *Human Rights Act 2019*)

There are no human rights relevant to the subordinate legislation.

Conclusion

I consider that the *Waste Reduction and Recycling Amendment Regulation 2024* is compatible with the *Human Rights Act 2019* because it does not limit human rights.

LEANNE LINARD
MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE GREAT BARRIER REEF
MINISTER FOR SCIENCE AND INNOVATION

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