



SUSTAINABLE AGGREGATES

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Management of asbestos in recycling C&D waste

Environmental Fact Sheet No. 5

Introduction

The purpose of this Fact Sheet is to present information on the processes within the C&D recycling industry to manage the exclusion of asbestos material in all crushed pavement materials (eg. PM1, PM2 and aggregates).

In South Australia all C&D recycling operations are undertaken under strict legislative requirements detailed in EPA "Standard for the Production and use of Waste Derived Fill". In addition the Waste Management Association (WMAA) produced a national guideline for industry entitled "Asbestos Management Guideline for Construction and Demolition Waste Recycling Facilities".

What is asbestos?

Asbestos is a generic term given to several naturally-occurring silicate minerals. The most common forms are; Chrysotile (white), Crocidolite (blue) and Amosite (brown). Asbestos-containing materials were used extensively in Australian buildings and structures, plants and equipment, ships, trains and motor vehicles circa 1950–1970, and some uses, including some friction materials and gaskets, were only discontinued on 31 December 2003.

The most commonly found household building materials that contain asbestos are asbestos-cement products (also called 'fibro' and 'AC sheeting') namely corrugated roofing sheets, roofing tiles, partition walls, flat sheets, infill panels, bath panels, gutters, water tanks, flue pipes, eaves soffits, fascia boards and flower boxes.



Figure 1. Asbestos sheeting in demolition concrete (rejected at receiving point)

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