

PRESS STATEMENT

Date: 20 March 2012

Embargo: N/A

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ESA responds to Red Tape Challenge Environment Theme proposals

The Environmental Services Association (ESA), the voice of the UK's waste management industry, has responded to the Red Tape Challenge Environment Theme proposals. ESA's Head of Regulation, Sam Corp, said:

"The announcement seems to have a struck a good balance between protecting vital environmental standards and reducing unnecessary regulation. We particularly welcome the proposals to streamline environmental permitting and increase its alignment with the planning regime.

"We will be looking carefully at the proposals for Waste Transfer Notes (WTNs), to ensure that any alternative system of recording waste movements does not make life easier for the minority who deliberately flout waste law. The proposed electronic system of WTNs may be more important in reducing red tape, and is a project we have been working on with the Environment Agency.

"We will also be looking carefully at the proposed simplification of some hazardous waste regulation, as this is an area where proper enforcement of rigorous regulation is vital."

ENDS

Notes to editors:

The Red Tape Challenge – Environment Theme Proposals can be found at the following link: http://www.defra.gov.uk/publications/files/pb13728-red-tape-environment.pdf

Supplementary information, including quotes from Environment Secretary, Caroline Spelman, and Robert Hunt, Executive Director of at Veolia Environmental Services and sector champion for the environment theme, can be found at:

http://www.defra.gov.uk/news/2012/03/19/red-tape-challenge/

The Environmental Services Association (ESA) is the trade association representing the UK's waste management and secondary resources industry. ESA's Members provide essential waste and secondary resources management services to the public and private sectors.

ESA works with all levels of government and regulators to deliver more sustainable waste management for the UK.

ESA's Members manage waste on behalf of the whole of society and we are recovering more of the materials and energy from waste than ever before: for example, quadrupling the UK's household recycling rates over the last 10 years. For further details please visit www.esauk.org