



## Controlled waste fact sheet

# Bulk controlled waste vehicles and tanks

## What is bulk controlled waste?

Under Environmental Protection (Controlled Waste) Regulations 2004 (the Regulations):

**bulk controlled waste** means a controlled waste that is transported in a tank;  
**tank** means an enclosed space that is on, attached to or part of a vehicle and used, or designed to be used, for the transportation of a liquid or gas in bulk ...

All vehicles or tanks transporting bulk controlled waste must be licensed by the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (the department).

A vehicle or tank is not permitted to transport controlled waste on a road until the department issues a bulk controlled waste vehicle or tank licence.

Under the *Road Traffic Act 1974*:

**road** means any highway, road or street open to, or used by, the public and includes every carriageway, footway, reservation, median strip and traffic island thereon ...

## Who can apply for a bulk controlled waste vehicle or tank licence?

Only a licensed bulk controlled waste carrier can apply for a licence for a bulk controlled waste vehicle or tank.

## How do I apply for a bulk controlled waste vehicle or tank licence?

To apply for a controlled waste vehicle or tank licence the carrier must:

- submit to the department completed [Form CW3 – Application](#) to licence vehicle or tank to transport bulk controlled waste
- submit a certified tank integrity certificate
- submit a copy of the vehicle's current registration paper, as issued by the Department of Transport (excluding dangerous goods vehicles and removable tanks)
- submit photographs of both sides and rear of the tank, clearly displaying the vehicle registration licence plate of the vehicle to which the tank is attached and the department tank criteria (signage, sight gauge/dipstick, safety valves at both ends of sight gauge, sampling tap and cam and groove locking end cap)
- submit, if applicable, a copy of the Dangerous Goods licence
- if applying as an individual who is a licensed controlled waste carrier, attach a copy of his or her driver's licence (back and front) or other proof of identity
- pay the scheduled licence fee for a vehicle or tank (refer to [Schedule of controlled waste](#))



[fees](#) on the department website, or contact the department on 08 6364 7000).

Once the department grants the application for a bulk controlled waste vehicle or tank licence, the applicant will be notified in writing and issued a bulk controlled waste vehicle or tank licence and identification card.

Allow up to 30 days for the department to process application forms. Regulation 6 provides:

- (3) If the CEO has not determined an application made under regulation 4 by the end of the period of 30 days —
- (a) beginning on the day on which the application was made to the CEO; or
  - (b) beginning on the day on which information required to be provided under regulation 4(2) is received by the CEO,
- whichever is the later, he or she is taken to have made a decision to refuse the application on the last day of that period.

### **How long is a bulk controlled waste vehicle or tank licence valid?**

Applicants applying for a bulk controlled waste vehicle or tank licence may choose a one-year, three-year or five-year period.

Before the expiry of a bulk controlled waste vehicle or tank licence, the carrier may choose to renew the licence for one year, three years or five years.

For more information on [fees](#), please refer to the department website, or contact the department on

08 6364 7000.

The licence for a vehicle or tank of a carrier remains valid only while the licence of the carrier is valid.

The suspension of a carrier's licence results in the suspension of, for the same duration, the bulk controlled waste licence for each of the carrier's vehicles or tanks.

### **Licence renewal**

The carrier is responsible for the renewal of a bulk controlled waste vehicle or tank licence, prior to its expiry date.

The department may send the carrier a renewal invoice up to five weeks before the expiry of the controlled waste vehicle or tank licence.

If a licence renewal invoice has not been received, the department should be contacted before the licence expiry date.

A vehicle or tank cannot be lawfully used to transport controlled waste when its licence has expired. Failure by a carrier to renew the controlled waste vehicle or tank licence before the due date will result in the licence expiring.

If the carrier wants to transport controlled waste after the controlled waste vehicle or tank licence has expired, a new controlled waste vehicle or tank licence application must be submitted accompanied by the full licence fee.



### **My vehicle or tank has a Dangerous Goods licence. Do I still need to apply for a bulk controlled waste vehicle or tank licence?**

A carrier who transports controlled waste in a vehicle or tank licensed under the Dangerous Goods Safety (Storage and Handling of Non-explosives) Regulations 2007 does not need to apply for a bulk controlled waste vehicle or tank licence.

In order to use the controlled waste tracking system to track movements of controlled waste transported in the Dangerous Goods vehicle or tank, the carrier, must submit [Form CW3 – Application to licence vehicle or tank to transport bulk controlled waste](#) for each vehicle or tank.

The application is submitted with all supporting documentation (including a copy of the Dangerous Goods licence for each vehicle or tank).

The department's tank criteria requirements apply to the vehicle or tank.

The department will issue the Dangerous Goods vehicle or tank with a bulk controlled waste vehicle identification card.

### **Certified tank integrity certificate**

All tanks to be licensed for transporting bulk controlled waste on a road must have such equipment, systems, or modifications required by the department's Chief Executive Officer (CEO) as a condition of licensing the vehicle or tank.

These requirements will be assessed during the licence application and set out as licence conditions.

The owner of any newly fabricated tank or existing tank constructed for the purposes of collecting and transporting controlled waste must, upon written notice from the CEO, submit the vehicle or tank for inspection.

Listed below are some points that may be assessed during the inspection:

- If a tank has been constructed under an Australian standard or another form of recognised standard, the testing methods will be stipulated under the specific standard
- If a tank does not comply with any recognised standard, the tank should be tested to ensure it complies with the following requirements:
  - the tank should be of sufficient strength and of such construction so as to prevent distortion under normal conditions of transport and use (shell thickness of tanks falls within this category)
  - the tank must be impervious and of sound construction and appropriately designed to avoid spillage
  - the tank's external fittings, including any seals, must be capable of withstanding the controlled waste being transported in the tank
  - the tank should be suitable for the categories of controlled waste to be transported in the tank
  - the tank should have sufficient venting
  - tank baffle plates should be



- constructed so as to prevent the trapping of air or liquid
- if applicable, hydrostatic testing is recommended for pressure testing (to ensure the integrity of the tank exceeds the maximum vacuum the pump is capable of generating)
- hydraulic testing is recommended to determine the effect on internal surfaces (to determine if the walls of the tank are capable of withstanding the weight of the liquid required by hydrostatic testing).

To demonstrate compliance with the CEO's written request for inspection, a certificate may be requested outlining if, and the period of time for which, the tank is fit for purpose.

### Tank criteria

The tank owner must ensure that any tank to be licensed complies with the tank criteria as detailed below. These criteria will be required as a condition of licence:

- If the tank is attached to or placed on a vehicle or trailer, the vehicle or trailer must be registered with the Department of Transport and be in roadworthy condition.
- If the tank is fully detachable and not affixed to the same vehicle or trailer, the tank will be required to have its own tank licence identification number issued by the department. To obtain this number, email Controlled Waste on [controlled.waste@dwer.wa.gov.au](mailto:controlled.waste@dwer.wa.gov.au) or

contact the department on 08 6364 7000.

1. The tank must have sign-writing as set out below:
  - a) On both sides of the tank with lettering of 150 millimetres (mm) in size:
    - the carrier trading name as stated on the controlled waste licence
    - the carrier licence number.
  - b) On both sides of the tank with lettering of 50 mm in size:
    - the words 'controlled waste'
    - tank carrying capacity in litres.
  - c) On the rear of the tank with lettering of 150 mm in size:
    - the carrier licence number.
  - d) On the rear of the tank with lettering of 50 mm in size:
    - the words 'controlled waste'
    - the carrier trading name as stated on the controlled waste licence.
  - e) Sign-writing for tanks not affixed to the same vehicle, must also include on the rear and both sides of the tank with lettering of 150 mm in size:
    - tank identification number.
2. The tank must have an accurate measurement device, such as a dipstick or sight gauge, so the contents of the tank can be measured:
  - a) If a sight gauge is utilised it must be fitted with safety valves at both ends to stop leakage in the event that the sight gauge is damaged



- b) If a dipstick is utilised, the dipstick must reach the bottom of the tank and finish at the total volume of the tank.
3. The tank must have a device such as a sampling tap in place to allow a sample of the load to be taken from the tank.
4. The tank must be impervious and of a sound construction suitable for the collection and transportation of controlled waste.
5. The tank must have a cam and groove locking end cap mechanism fitted to all external fittings of the tank while transporting controlled waste.
6. Certification of the tank integrity must be submitted for each tank to be licensed with the department.
7. A spill management plan and suitable spill equipment must accompany the tank when transporting controlled waste.

Applicants must submit photographs of the following:

- both sides and rear of the tank, clearly displaying the required tank sign-writing
- sight gauge, dipstick or other approved method of measurement
- safety valves, for those tanks fitted with sight gauge
- sampling tap
- safety cam and groove locking end cap or other approved mechanism on all external fittings
- vehicle registration plate of the vehicle to which the tank is affixed.

The department periodically inspects all vehicles/tanks transporting controlled waste to ensure compliance with the Regulations and licence conditions.

Tanks proposed to be licensed to transport bulk controlled waste that are designed or intended to be utilised as a pressure vessel may also be required to be registered under the Occupational Safety and Health Regulations 1996.

For more information about registering vehicles under the Occupational Safety and Health Regulations 1996, contact [the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety](#).

### **Spill management plan**

Licence conditions specify that a carrier must have a documented spill management plan (SMP).

The carrier must ensure that a copy of the SMP and suitable spill management equipment accompanies any vehicle or tank transporting controlled waste on a road.

For further information on SMPs, please refer to the SMP section within the fact sheet '[Requirements of controlled waste carriers](#)', on the department website, or contact the department on 08 6364 7000.

### **How do I amend or update my vehicle or tank licence?**

If a vehicle or tank licence requires:

- change of postal address
- change of vehicle registration, or
- a tank to be moved from one vehicle to another,



complete and submit [Form CW8 – Amendment to a carrier or vehicle controlled waste licence](#) to the department.

Fees may apply to licence amendments. Please refer to [Schedule of controlled waste fees](#) on the department website, or contact the department on 08 6364 7000.

If a vehicle or tank is decommissioned the department should be notified in writing.

### **What happens to my licence if I sell my business, tank or vehicle**

Within 30 days of assigning a controlled waste business or licensed vehicle or tank, a carrier must notify the department in writing that the assignment has occurred.

If the new owner (the assignee) wants to carry on the business, or operate the vehicle or tank under the existing carrier licence within 30 days of assignment, the assignee must complete and submit [Form CW10 – Application to transfer of controlled waste vehicle/tank licence to assignee](#), together with the scheduled transfer fee.

If the new owner follows the process above, and complies with all conditions the licence was subject to at the time of assignment, then the new owner is considered to be the licence-holder during the period between the assignment occurring and the licence transfer being completed.

Before making a decision to transfer a bulk controlled waste vehicle or tank licence, the department may request additional information from the assignee.

If the transfer is approved, subject to any conditions to the contrary, the licence shall be valid for its original period.

The original licence holder remains liable for any statutory obligations of the original licence incurred immediately before the sale, such as any fees payable or the submission of outstanding tracking forms.

### **What if I have lost my bulk controlled waste vehicle or tank identification card?**

Bulk controlled waste carrier licence conditions are breached if a carrier fails to ensure that a valid tank identification card accompanies a licensed tank when transporting controlled waste on a road.

To request a replacement identification card, contact the department on 08 6364 7000, or email [controlled.waste@dwer.wa.gov.au](mailto:controlled.waste@dwer.wa.gov.au).



## More information

For advice on compliance with the Regulations or any other controlled waste matter, please contact the department on 08 6364 7000, or email [controlled.waste@dwer.wa.gov.au](mailto:controlled.waste@dwer.wa.gov.au).

This document is available in alternative formats and other languages on request.

## Related documents

Additional [publications about controlled waste](#) and related [controlled waste fact sheets](#) are available on the department website, or by contacting the department on 08 6364 7000.

## Legislation

This document is provided for guidance only. It should not be relied upon to address every aspect of the relevant legislation.

Please refer to the Regulations and the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* available from the Parliamentary Counsel's Office. Free electronic copies are available from the [Parliamentary Counsel's Office website](#).

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## Legal advice

The information provided to you by the department in relation to this matter does not constitute legal advice. Due to the range of legal issues potentially involved in this matter, the department recommends that you obtain independent legal advice.