

24 April 2017

Director, Codes and Approval Pathways
Department of Planning & Environment
GPO Box 39
SYDNEYNSW 2001



Australian Institute of Architects

Dear Sir / Madam

RECYCLING EQUIPMENT AS EXEMPT DEVELOPMENT

The Institute's vision is design – communities – public good. This is why design considerations are critical in the way that we make changes to regulations affecting the built environment.

The Institute endorses the Premier's goal of reducing litter in NSW by 40% by 2010 and the programs designed to deliver that result.

We are impressed that the EPA is preparing a design guide for recycling equipment. It is important that the equipment is both visually distinctive and easy to use.

We consider a further step is necessary, however. While the design of the individual units is important, equal consideration must be given to the number of these facilities and their placement within the landscape. It is important to avoid the visual clutter that could arise from their excessive and insensitive distribution.

There are some excellent European housing models where the recycling stations are well-designed, integrated elements of the streetscape. The key points are:

1. there are design cues so they are reasonably self-evident (but not ugly);
2. their location is close to dwellings to encourage their use; and
3. the infrastructure facilitates their removal.

The Institute includes in its membership many urban designers who would be willing to apply their expertise to the delivery of a slightly expanded design guide that incorporates these ideas.

This submission was prepared by the NSW Chapter Built Environment Committee for Chapter Council.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on the proposed changes to the SEPP.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrew Nimmo", followed by a period.

Andrew Nimmo
NSW President