ISWA TECHNICAL POLICY NO. 3

FUNDING, MANAGING AND OPERATING
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

Policy

Funding, managing, and operating waste management systems are interdependent and must be addressed and implemented as a single unit. ISWA supports adequate funding and full cost accounting for integrated waste management (IWM) systems, and the funding of IWM systems through service and/or user fees, or on an enterprise fund basis. ISWA supports the fundamental policy that local governments are responsible for the planning and management of all waste generated within or imported into the area of a local government, and that such waste be managed in a manner that protects public health, welfare, and the environment and is adequately funded to accomplish this policy. ISWA also supports the policy that local government need not own or operate facilities or systems provided that the services, systems or capacity provided are consistent with local government rules and regulations. ISWA also supports the utilization of private sector service providers when local governments determine that it is in the best interest of the public, institutions, industry, and businesses to utilize private sector service providers.

Position

Funding, managing, and operating waste management systems are interdependent and must be addressed and implemented as a single unit. ISWA supports each of the following:

- full cost accounting in IWM systems, whether services are provided by public or private entities, where each cost and revenue centre identifies the cost and revenue for each activity, service and management method provided by the system. Full cost accounting also includes costs for closure and restoration of waste treatment and disposal facilities

- the full cost of providing all services in an enterprise funded system should be paid for by the users of an IWM system; where funds are provided by tax revenue, tax statements should disclose the costs for IWM and identify the cost and revenue for each activity, service, and management method provided by an IWM system, and

- charges for IWM services should reflect the amount and character of the wastes generated.

ISWA supports the position that the role of local government in integrated waste management is to:

- plan for environmentally and economically sound IWM system within their authority area,

- establish and implement public policies for integrated waste management,

- assure that systems, facilities, and services meet relevant legal requirements which protect human health and the environment,

• exercise control and make the decisions relative to how waste is managed within their authority area,

• assure that provincial/state governments empower local governments to assure environmentally and economically sound integrated waste management within their authority area,

• assure the establishment of safe, reliable, efficient, and reasonably priced systems,

• establish plans, regulations, guidelines, standards, and licences for the delivery of services,

• determine the allocation of ownership and operations of services, systems, and facilities based on a competitive process,

• assure that a competitive process is in place to make decisions on the delivery of services, and

• assure that services are established by a fair, equitable, and competitive process where private sector waste service providers are utilized for services, systems or facilities.

ISWA supports the position that the role of private sector service providers in IWM is to:

• participate in the planning for IWM systems,

• participate in the setting of public policies for IWM,

• participate in the implementation of public policies for IWM under local government management and direction through the provision of services and systems,

• comply with all applicable rules, regulations and standards established by governments to assure environmentally and economically sound waste management systems, and

• compete for the right/privilege of providing the designated services through an open competitive process.