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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

10 March 2023

### **Closure of Geeveston Waste Transfer Station**

Huon Valley Council has confirmed the closure date for the Geeveston Waste Transfer Station (Geeveston WTS) and is updating the community on progress with the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy (WARRS).

“Sunday 02 April 2023 will be the final day for Geeveston WTS operations. The site will be closed to the public from 03 April 2023, allowing Council to remediate the historic landfill and consider alternative future uses of the site,” Huon Valley Council Mayor Doyle said.

Council has made this decision following community consultation as part of developing the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy (WARRS).

“Council recognises the impact of this closure on the community, including on our own Waste Services staff. The closure of Geeveston WTS gives us the opportunity to provide increased staffing at the Southbridge WTS, with no cuts to staff hours.”

The WARRS includes measures to offset the closure, which are scheduled as follows:

- 02 April 2023 - Geeveston WTS last day of operation
- 03 April 2023 - Delivery of kerbside bins to extension areas within Geeveston commences
- 03 April 2023 - Southbridge WTS commences extended daily operation from 8:30am to 4:00pm weekdays and 10:00am to 4:00pm weekends
- 17 April 2023- Kerbside collections begin for Geeveston extension areas.

The kerbside extension area includes 3km of Arve Rd, 2km of Kermantie River Rd, and all of Esperance Coast Road, capturing 131 additional properties with potential for opt-ins on adjoining roads.



### **Why is Geeveston WTS closing?**

"Geeveston Waste Transfer Station was one of several small landfills located around the Huon Valley. Many landfills, including the Geeveston site were closed in the 2000's, as environmental standards increased, and the landfill capacities were reached. It was intended that Geeveston would eventually close but would operate for a short time following landfill capping. As such, limited investment has been made into the infrastructure required to operate as a waste transfer station.

"To continue to operate into the future, significant capital works are required including remediation requirements of the Environmental Protection Notice placed on the site when the landfill closed.

"Geeveston WTS transactions per day have declined slowly since financial year 2009/2010 and in 2020/2021 averaged under 17 per day. Conservatively assuming each transaction in one week (51 transactions) is from a separate household, this represents 5% of the non-vacant residential properties in the Geeveston region.

"Operational savings realised from closing Geeveston WTS will be reinvested into extended operational hours at the Southbridge WTS. Community feedback received during the WARRS consultation suggested strong support for extending the operating hours of Southbridge WTS.

"In summary, the ongoing cost to operate the site outweighs the benefits, which can be offset by extending the kerbside collection range and increasing Southbridge WTS operating hours."

The Manager Environmental Services will be available to answer questions during a drop-in session at the Huon Valley Hub between 1:00pm and 4:00pm on Tuesday 21 March 2023.

Enquiries should be addressed to 'Waste Services' via email to [hvc@huonvalley.tas.gov.au](mailto:hvc@huonvalley.tas.gov.au)

**For more information: Mayor Sally Doyle (03) 6264 0300**