

## The treatment and disposal of dog faeces using an in situ dog toilet

**If you comply with the requirements set out below, we will allow the treatment and disposal of dog faeces using an in situ dog toilet without the need for an environmental permit.**

### Background

There are currently two commercially available dog toilets. These consist of a two-chamber, buried, perforated vessel where dog faeces is placed and treated with an enzyme to aid degradation. The treated contents are periodically flushed through the system into the ground where the dog toilet is buried. They are used in a variety of situations ranging from individual households through to camp sites.

There is a strong argument that these dog toilets are technically covered by the Landfill Directive.

### Our position

We will not pursue an application for an environmental permit for the activity where:

- the dog toilet is located (25 metres) away from where people may eat or drink when it is used in areas to which the public have access;
- the dog toilet is flushed each week while operational with 5 millilitres of the enzyme used for treating the faeces;
- it is not situated within a Groundwater Source Protection Zone 1 or within 50 metres of a borehole, well or spring (see 'Further advice' below for information on Groundwater Source Protection Zones);
- it is buried in freely draining soils and is not installed in an area prone to flooding or standing water;
- it is able to store no more than 0.5 cubic metres of faeces at one time;
- you meet the relevant objectives of the Waste Framework Directive;  
'... ensuring that waste management is carried out without endangering human health, without harming the environment and in particular:
  - (i) without risk to water, air, soil, plants or animals;
  - (ii) without causing a nuisance through noise or odours; and

(iii) without adversely affecting the countryside or places of special interest.'

### **Enforcement**

In not pursuing an application for a permit, this means we will not normally take enforcement action unless the activity has caused, or is likely to cause, pollution or harm to health. For a more detailed explanation of this enforcement position, please refer to our **Enforcement and Sanctions Statement**. This document can be found on the 'How we regulate you' page in the Business & Industry section of our website.

### **Further advice**

Further advice on Groundwater Source Protection Zones can be found at the Water Resources section on our web site.

This regulatory position will be reviewed by 31 March 2013.

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