



[INDUSTRY PROFILES](#) > [Environmental Services](#)

Environmental Services

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Environmental considerations have become a crucial element in modern business planning.

The threat of global warming, Federal Government plans for the introduction of an emissions trading scheme, and increased corporate efforts to demonstrate green credentials have combined to put the issue of environmental management front and centre.

New opportunities are being created for specialist companies and technical service providers working in environmental technologies.

Profiling Innovative NSW Technologies: Environmental Sector is a booklet profiling 81 NSW companies working in the field of environmental improvement. They cover a full range of environmental technology services.

This booklet is designed to be used as a resource for both business and individuals with a keen mind to reducing their environmental footprint, and contributing to the global effort to preserve the earth for future generations.

View [Profiling Innovative NSW Technologies: Environmental Sector](#) (pdf, 1.6mb)

NSW is the heartland of the environmental industry in Australia. Nearly 50% of the 140 firms and public sector organisations listed in the Australian Environmental Industry Directory are based in the State, excluding research organisations and industry associations.

Individuals, firms and governments in New South Wales (NSW) spend about A\$4 billion a year on environmental goods and services.

Nearly 35% of this expenditure is used for the treatment of waste water and the protection of water supplies.

Almost 30% covers the treatment of solid wastes, including household garbage. Wastes from commerce and industry comprise more than half of all money spent on solid wastes.

The rest of the environmental expenditure is used for:

- guarding and improving the quality of the air, soils and ground water
- protecting biodiversity and the landscape
- reducing noise
- undertaking research and development.

Much of the demand for environmental services is driven by standards for air and water quality set by the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA).

Companies and organisations involved in the environmental services industry include:

- firms with major solid and toxic waste management expertise and technology
- air pollution monitoring and control specialists
- green energy providers
- major consulting firms
- suppliers of innovative water and waste water management solutions
- experts in clearing up contaminated sites.

As a major participant in the environmental industry through State agencies and corporations such as Sydney Water, Hunter Water and the NSW Waste Service, the NSW Government draws heavily on the technology and expertise of the private sector.

Powerful research and development base

A solid research and development base supports the NSW environmental industry. Led by the world-ranked Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) for Waste Management and Pollution Control and the University of NSW's Centre for Water and Waste Technology, research organisations work with local and international firms to maximise the commercialisation and uptake of new technology.

Significant export potential


Environmental services in Australia is a mature industry, similar to that in most advanced nations. Growth is about 3-4% a year.

In developing nations in Asia, Africa, South America and Eastern Europe, the industry grows up to 10% a year, offering major export opportunities for local firms and organisations with the right skills and technology.

For more information

Investment and Industry Development Division | ☎ +61 2 9338 6961 | industry@business.nsw.gov.au

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