



## Standard Guide



### Choose GECA for better construction & demolition waste services

According to Australia's [National Waste Report 2022](#), construction and demolition waste has more than doubled over the past 15-year period. And by 2025, it is expected that [2.2 billion tonnes](#) of construction waste will be generated worldwide. So at GECA, we have developed a robust lifecycle ecolabel standard to reduce the impact of this growing waste stream.

Construction and demolition (C&D) waste can be reduced by early waste management measures like source reduction or reducing the use of materials, salvaging and reusing C&D materials, and recycling and converting them into energy.

GECA's **Construction & Demolition Waste Services standard** recognises best practice in C&D waste minimisation and management for services delivering substantial environmental benefits.

So, to become GECA certified, where applicable, applicants must show that they follow the waste priority hierarchy starting with waste avoidance. These measures divert waste from landfills and reduce the burden on raw materials.

#### Benefits for service providers and procurement

Once a waste collection service has been certified, your company can use the GECA ecolabel to **show clients and procurement teams that you are a sustainability leader** in the C&D waste sector. Third-party certification is becoming an increasingly important driver, particularly for the public sector. GECA's ecolabel makes it easier to identify your leadership. You will be ahead of the game to win over more business!

When creating requests for tenders and developing contracts, specifying GECA certified waste services **prompts the market toward best practice**. It also **reduces risk** with the assurance you are purchasing a third-party verified product.

#### What services does the standard cover?

The standard's scope applies to C&D waste, meaning the **non-hazardous material generated by construction or demolition activities**, including site preparation.

This standard covers **C&D waste recovery services, C&D waste management by construction waste generator, and C&D waste management by demolition waste generators**.



This standard aligns with the Green Building Council of Australia's Green Star [construction and demolition waste reporting criteria](#)



## Environment

### Planning

In this section, the standard's criteria focus on the applicant's commitment to minimising the amount of C&D waste generated for the project. This includes implementing the waste priority hierarchy, engaging and collaborating with critical stakeholders, including project designers, and developing a waste management plan.

### Measurement, Transparency & Waste Priority Hierarchy

This section addresses measuring and reporting the quantity (volume) and destination of all C&D waste in the waste material inventory for every project completed as part of the GECA certified service.

### Communication & Reporting

In this section, the standard's criteria focus on ensuring that the license holder has provided appropriate training for its staff and all relevant stakeholders on the project. This includes a community engagement plan providing education on where the waste material is sent.

### Demonstrated Waste Diversion

A crucial part of certification under this standard is measuring, documenting and reporting to demonstrate a diversion of at least 90% of C&D waste from landfill. Demolition waste generators must also meet a target of more than 50% of demolition waste materials to be salvaged for reuse or recycling.

Between 2020 and 2021, C&D waste **grew by 7%**, mainly in the second year of the pandemic after lockdowns diminished.



## Social

### Social & Legal Compliance

Nothing is truly sustainable if it overlooks the treatment of workers. This section addresses compliance with the producer and applicant company's legal and social attributes. It also engages with the supply chain to uphold human and labour rights. Criteria focus on environmental legislation, minimum entitlement including wages, workplace health and safety, equal opportunity, lawful conduct, [modern slavery](#) and human and labour rights legislation.



## Fit for Purpose

### Quality

As well as meeting environmental and social benchmarks, the service must meet or exceed the relevant Australian Standards or equivalent international standards.

## SDGs relevant to this standard



### Let's Talk!

You can contact us via [info@geca.org.au](mailto:info@geca.org.au) or +61 2 9699 2850 for further information on how we can help. You can also find us at [www.geca.eco](http://www.geca.eco)



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