

**16<sup>th</sup> January 2009**

## **Be aware of hazardous substances**

People are asked to be mindful of what they are disposing at Buller transfer stations.

Hazardous substances cannot be accepted for disposal at any of Buller's transfer stations. This includes all poisons and chemicals in any form, and all hazardous substances as defined in the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act.

Acting Manager Operations, Tony Robertson, said the reasons for not accepting hazardous substances at transfer stations are common sense. "These substances are dangerous, and if not disposed of properly they have the potential to cause injury and damage" he said.

"Waste disposed of at Buller transfer stations is handled by staff here, by the drivers who transport the waste to Nelson, and by staff at the landfill in Nelson. If there are hazardous substances in that waste, a number of people are at risk of being injured. Hazardous waste could also cause fires to break out at the transfer stations, the landfill, or on the truck carrying the refuse, causing damage and further potential for injury".

The landfill Buller's waste is transported to cannot accept hazardous substances without prior approval from the Nelson City Council, said Mr Robertson. "If hazardous substances are found in waste coming from Buller, the landfill will not be able to accept it. This could result in the Nelson City Council revoking its acceptance of all refuse from Buller".

Mr Robertson said if people were unsure whether particular waste could be disposed of at the transfer station they could contact the site operator, Westreef Services, on (03) 789 7997 to check.

**ENDS**



**Further information; Tony Robertson (Acting Manager Operations)  
Buller District Council (03) 788 9623**