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Media Statement

Thornlie man fined \$10,000 for illegal dumping

A 27 year old Thornlie man was fined \$10,000 in Armadale Magistrates' Court yesterday, after illegally dumping fencing containing asbestos at Korung National Park near Karragullen on 3 June last year.

Samuel Michael Gossage was identified after Department of Environment Regulation (DER) investigators found a fast food receipt at the dumping site and cross checked the time of purchase with the restaurant's drive-through CCTV.

DER also used footage to identify the man, from an onsite concealed video camera that captured the incident.

Mr Gossage was also ordered to pay \$1284.80 in clean-up costs and \$660.30 for court costs.

The Department of Environment Regulation's Acting Director General Kelly Faulkner said the conviction should serve as a timely warning to 'would-be dumpers'.

"This conviction makes it clear that severe penalties apply to anyone who illegally dumps waste across this State," she said.

"These penalties are in place because the illegal dumping of waste can impact on the health of people and the environment, and is costly for the community."

Maximum penalties for illegal dumping are \$62,500 for individuals and \$125,000 for corporations.

To report illegal dumping, call DER's 24-hour pollution watch hotline on 1300 784 782.

DER works collaboratively with other State and Local Government agencies to tackle illegal dumping.

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