

# TRENDS AND OPPORTUNITIES – WASTE MANAGEMENT

DST Workshop, 18 February 2014

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# CURRENT TRENDS IN HAZARDOUS WASTE (SOUTH AFRICA)

- Recession in global economy is driving volumes down
- Legislation in place to promote management according to the waste hierarchy
- Increasing interest in Waste to Energy but economics difficult
- Impending prohibitions on liquid disposal to landfill promoting investment in effluent treatment technology
- Landfill disposal will remain a solution in SA but with increasing investment in pre-treatment technologies prior to disposal

# OPPORTUNITIES FOR HAZARDOUS WASTE TREATMENT TECHNOLOGIES

- Conversion of hazardous wastes with calorific value into waste derived fuels at competitive pricing versus coal
- Viable / proven technologies for treatment of contaminated soils (chlorinated hydrocarbons / hydrocarbons) pending the contaminated land legislation
- New / innovative effluent treatment technologies that can deliver usable (potable?) water cost effectively
- Technologies for the recycling / recovery of materials from WEEE

# OBSTACLES TO MOVING FORWARD

- Current cost of landfill disposal
- DEA's intent to force waste management according to the waste hierarchy not fully supported by clear legislation
- Imperfect legislation allowing hazardous waste disposal at municipal landfill sites
- Large volumes of cheap 2<sup>nd</sup> grade coal inhibit waste to energy development
- Uncertainty w.r.t. contaminated land legislation inhibits early investment in technology other than landfill disposal
- Low perceived value of recovered water from effluents
- Delayed prosecution of environmental offenders encourages poor or illegal waste management practices