



Silt trap project wins award for Flinders Bioremediation and partners



A PATON THE BACK: Client and consortium celebrate their Case EARTH award. Director of Flinders Bioremediation Dr Richard Stewart (third from right) and project officer Ms Raya Gifford (far left) are shown with staff from the Patawalonga Catchment Water Management Board and from fellow consortium members Lucas Earthmovers and the Jeffries Group.

A project involving Flinders Bioremediation in a trial to compost waste material removed from stormwater in the Patawalonga catchment area has been awarded a Case EARTH Award.

The Case EARTH Awards are presented annually by the Civil Contractors Federation for excellence in environment and excellence in construction for civil construction projects around Australia.

The awards have the specific aim of recognising and rewarding organisations that achieve best practice and innovation in the field of environmental management of civil construction and related projects.

As well as winning its category in the State Awards, the Patawalonga project has been chosen as one of six finalists for the national awards, which will be announced in November.

With Lucas Earthmovers and composting firm Jeffries, Flinders Bioremediation was part of a consortium selected by the Patawalonga Catchment Water Management Board to trial an alternative method of disposing of material from silt traps. In a bid to avoid sending it to landfill. The stormwater-borne silt contains low-level contaminants as well as organic debris.

The general manager of Flinders Bioremediation, Dr Richard Stewart, said that the awards have a high profile within the industry.

"The major outcome of the project is that it has shown that composting is a viable alternative

to landfill for this material - it is both a cheaper and more environmentally sustainable option for the Catchment Board," he said.

The large-scale trial involved some 3,000 cubic metres of trapped material; approximately 30,000 cubic metres held in silt traps around Adelaide remains to be treated.