

# HAZARD ALERT

## Incorrect phone disposal causing fire

### REFERENCES:

WHS Act 2012 (SA) Sections 19, 20, 21 & 27  
WHS Regulations 2012 (SA) – Regulations 34 – 38, 147 – 151  
Plant Management Procedure (15)

### OBJECTIVE:

To communicate a safety issue recently identified regarding incorrect disposal of mobile phones.

### BACKGROUND:

Recently a mobile phone had been disposed of in a skip bin and spontaneously caught fire.

Fortunately, the fire never had the opportunity to get out of control, was extinguished immediately and the bin was wheeled outside.

There have also been numerous incidents across the globe where lithium batteries have caught alight or spontaneously combusted while charging. CSH&W SA issued a hazard alert regarding LiPo batteries February 2019 [Hazard Alert LiPo Batteries](#)



### PREVENTATIVE ACTIONS:

- Mobile phones, landline phones, chargers, and mobile accessories should never be put in your site's rubbish or recycling bin. They can be recycled, but only when dropped off at designated collection points.
- Australia has a national recycling scheme for mobile phones that also accepts mobile phone batteries, accessories, landline phones, and other electronic items Run by not-for-profit MobileMuster <https://www.mobilemuster.com.au/recycle-a-mobile/> there are more than 3,000 drop-off locations across the country and a free mailing service.

**For enquiries or further information please contact your WHS Consultant at CSH&W SA or ring the Office on 8215 6850**