

Construction polystyrene. What's it doing out there?

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Photo: Wilkinson Environmental





Leoskool, Laurent & Descamps, Thierry. (2014). Development of a structural insulated panel (SIP) with wood based material. 10.13140/2.1.3567.0727.





Photo: Wilkinson Environmental





Photo: Wilkinson Environmental

Auckland Council





Foamed plastic collected by Sustainable Coastlines (all time)

7.5%

of total
beach
items

1.0%

of beach
items by
weight

9.5%

of
freshwater
items

2.2%

of freshwater
items by
weight







The problem of dealing with escaped EPS

**The issues
aren't really
covered by
the Litter Act**

The Litter Act refers to depositing waste which works for illegal dumping situations.

**It's not
typically
regarded as a
contaminant**

EPS is often regarded as inert


**Can cause
changes to
the condition
of soil & water**

There's evidence that it can cause changes to the physical, chemical or biological condition of soil and water.

**Once it
escapes, it's
there forever**

Escaped EPS is almost impossible to pick up





**What is a
contaminant?**

**Likely to change
the physical,
chemical, or
biological condition of
land, air or
water**







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Changes to the Litter Act 1979

**‘escaped’ waste
carried by wind or
water from one
site to
another**







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