

SE Business
 HD **Transpacific halt pending review**
 BY Bridget Carter, Waste management
 WC 319 words
 PD 14 August 2014
 SN The Australian
 SC AUSTLN
 ED Australian
 PG 18
 LA English
 CY © 2014 News Limited. All rights reserved.
 LP

WASTE management **company** Transpacific is expected to reveal by the end of the week that it has made major provisions surrounding the costs for landfill remediation.

The **company** was placed in a trading halt last night pending an announcement before the close of trade on Friday.

TD

However, analysts were puzzled by the **company**'s move to halt trading in its shares. They said the provisions were non-cash items and a larger-than-normal provision would not normally trigger a trading halt.

Transpacific reports its full-year results on August 21. In February the group posted a 391 per cent increase in half-year net profit to \$158.6 **million**, a result propelled higher by a major asset **sale**.

However, at the time underlying net profit still increased by 16.5 per cent to \$41.7 **m**.

Chief executive Robert Boucher had previously said he expected trading conditions to remain stable in the six months to June.

A **sale** of Transpacific's New Zealand **operations** to **China**'s Beijing Capital was expected to result in the **company** returning to paying dividends.

The payments were cancelled by the **company**, which had agreed to certain restrictions on dividends with its syndicate banks and US private placement note holders.

Beijing Capital paid \$NZ950m for the business in March and the **sale** was to be finalised in June.

At the time, Morgans analyst Nathan **Lead** said the deal would see Transpacific lose about 20 per cent of its earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortisation, but reduce debt from about 1.9 times earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortisation to about 0.2 times.

Mr Boucher had hoped the deal would put the **company** on track to position itself for growth. Shares were halted last night at \$1.09, with the stock falling from levels of about \$1.16 earlier in the year.

NS c1522 : Share Price Movement/Disruptions | c15 : Performance | ccat : Corporate/Industrial News | ncat : Content Types | nfact : Factiva Filters | nfce : FC&E Exclusion Filter | nfcpin : FC&E Industry News Filter
 RE austr : Australia | apacz : Asia Pacific | ausnz : Australia/Oceania
 PUB News Ltd.
 AN Document AUSTLN0020140813ea8e0003v