

Fuel for Thought

Assessing Social Impacts

During the week we had a consultant in town doing some work for us around the social aspects of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for our planned commercial project.

The EIS involves a whole lot of studies and other activities into flora and fauna, air quality, surface and groundwater monitoring and cultural heritage studies, and it also includes an assessment into the likely social benefits and impacts resulting from a project's development.

The process involves an independent consultant interviewing a range of people in the community, from council and State government agencies which deliver services through to local business people and residents.

On behalf of QER I'd like to express our thanks to the people who have put time aside to talk with our consultant and relate their experiences and perspectives for what is a very important part of our project's development and implementation.

The social impact assessment is a required element in conducting an EIS, and that's appropriate given the fact that any new development will have to integrate with the social structure of the community and it is critically important to understand those dynamics and be able to plan activities accordingly.

It helps us plan how we'll manage impacts and we believe it will show that our planned project will benefit the community, especially in terms of future employment and economic activity. That is certainly our goal.

With regard to the project itself we are still in the process of talking to potential investment partners, and remain hopeful that the discussions we are having will lead to a positive outcome.

In the meantime we will continue to keep the community informed regarding the status of our planned project and the work we are undertaking.

As part of our communication efforts we are keeping our visitor centre open for anyone interested in learning more about our fuels industry.

The visitor centre is at our New Fuels Development Centre on Landing Road, and is open 7 days a week, from 9am until 4:30pm Monday to Friday, and from 12:30pm until 4pm on weekends and public holidays.



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Creating new fuels for Australia

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