

# Fuel for Thought

## Sustainable Partnering

Next week I'll literally be up a creek (with) a paddle, and will be delighted to be there to hopefully provide some assistance.

It's all part of a program aimed at rehabilitating some of the waterways in the Gladstone region, and next week's project involves some work to rehabilitate Boat Creek.

QER is one of the many sponsors signed up to help out with the project, which is being conducted as part of a program to develop and nourish partnerships between industry and natural resource management groups to improve our local environment.

In this case it's the Fitzroy Basin Association, and there are other like-minded groups in our region doing some great conservation, sustainability and environmental work in partnership with a range of industries.

QER is currently seeking an investor partner for a commercial project and so we have limited resources, but hopefully by doing what we can now and developing relationships with groups such as FBA we will have a head start towards making a more significant contribution should we proceed to develop the next stage of our industry.

As we continue to progress our project it's important to ensure we respond to questions and comments posed by community members, and we've had a couple lately I'd like to highlight.

The first involves explaining the difference between shale oil and oil shale. Our process is not shale oil, also known as tight oil, which occurs when oil forms within the shale deposit and is unlocked by a process involving drilling and fracking (fracturing the shale).

QER's project is based around oil shale, a sedimentary rock containing organic material known as kerogen, a type of oil. We mine the oil shale rock in a typical open cut mining method and then heat the rock in a contained vessel to release the kerogen, which we then refine into high quality transport fuels, mainly ultra-low sulphur diesel.

I've also been asked about the depth of our planned mine. It will be around 90 metres at its deepest point, roughly the same as the existing pit on our mining lease, and of course we will be returning the processed shale to the pit and rehabilitating the mine area.



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