

Fuel for Thought

Engaging at Ecofest

I'd like to start the column with a big thank you to the people of Gladstone for the interest they showed in QER and our industry at last weekend's very successful Ecofest event.

Reports I saw said well over 10,000 attended Ecofest and I don't doubt it given the numbers of people passing by our marquee, with many stopping for a discussion.

I must say I thoroughly enjoyed meeting such a diverse range of people.

One of the talking points at our stand involved a large slab of oil shale rock, and a competition to guess the amount of diesel we could produce from it.

We promised people, including Lisa, Cassie and Tracey (see you did get a mention) that we would publish the results, and I'm delighted to say that the winning entry was 8-year-old Dannika Wass from Tannum Sands. Danika guessed 4.01 litres could be produced from the 48kg rock, which was the closest to the correct answer of 4.1 litres.

Ecofest really did provide a wonderful opportunity for us to interact with the community and explain our technology and processes to the many folk who were interested in how we can sustainably produce high quality diesel from oil shale rock, and ensure strict environmental management of our project.

This coming week we plan to refer the next stage of our Gladstone new fuels development project to the Federal Environment department – the first formal step towards approval and with that process will come continuing community consultation.

We'll also continue to work towards securing investment for our next stage – a commercial facility producing around 8,000 barrels of ultra-low sulphur diesel per day.



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