

Fuel for Thought

The Magic of Civilisation

This week we've been doing some electrical work at site and we've had the power off – falling back on our diesel generator (good old diesel, where would we be without it?!)

On the rare occasion when the power does go off, it makes you realise how much we take the magic of civilisation for granted. Running water magically appears from the walls of our homes; sewerage magically disappears; light, heat, cooling and every imaginable device is available at the flick of a switch.

Most of us don't know exactly where the power or the water come from...or where the sewerage goes. At one level, we know it's important, but we rarely think about it – and usually don't need to.

It's the same when I talk to people about the work that QER is doing to develop a new, Australian-made source of transport fuel. We're solving a problem that most people don't even know exists – Australia's increasing reliance on transport fuel shipped all the way across the world.

And on a daily basis, we rarely think about how important that fuel is. It powers the tractors that plough the paddocks that grow our vegetables and the trucks that carry them from the paddock to the table; the buses that get the kids off to school; the fuel that goes into the mine truck - that mines the coal - that's shipped to the port - to generate the electricity that keeps business and industry going (which helps pay the wages and therefore the bills).

We sometimes forget how important and how interconnected we are to the magic of civilisation. It's not perfect and it cops a lot of criticism at times, but that 'magic' is really the product of many years of ingenuity and hard work.

'Magic' commodities like transport fuel are essential to the quality of life that we and our families take for granted today. At QER we like to think we are doing our little bit to help make that magic for future generations.



Bruce Andersen
Site Superintendent,
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Creating new fuels for Australia

www.qer.com.au

Visitor Centre at 375 Landing Rd, Yarwun.

Open Weekdays 8am to 2pm. | Weekends, public holidays and other times by appointment – 0448 860 656.