

# Fuel for Thought

## World Interest in Oil Shale Continues

Recently, two Brisbane colleagues of ours represented QER at the annual international Oil Shale Conference in Salt Lake City. They also visited our sister company's Paraho demonstration plant in Rifle, Colorado.



**Bruce Andersen**  
Site Superintendent,  
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I must admit to being a little envious and nostalgic, having worked there for QER a few years ago. The Rockies are beautiful this time of year, dressed in their autumn colours.

Despite the lower oil price, it was clear from the conference that world interest in oil shale development continues. It was attended by delegates from the US, China, Estonia and Jordan where there are projects underway and in development, as well as delegates from many other countries which have oil shale deposits and maintain a keen interest in the industry for the future.

The representatives at the conference talked about the current global surplus of oil production capacity and low oil price as being temporary. Like QER, most proponents will have to wait until the market sentiment recovers to secure the finance necessary for new projects.

However like QER, they also know that the fundamental need to develop new sources of fuel for the future hasn't gone away. It's a tough business to be in, navigating through uncertainty to develop a project for future generations. But as that great American Abraham Lincoln said: "You cannot escape the responsibility of tomorrow by evading it today".



**Paraho Pilot Plant – Rifle, Colorado.**



Creating new fuels for Australia

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