

Fuel for Thought

Welcome News

It has been a very important week for all of us at QER, with the Queensland Government giving a strong endorsement for our demonstration plant project.

During the week Natural Resources and Mines Minister Andrew Cripps, and Environment Minister Andrew Powell, came to our New Fuels Development Centre at Yarwun to announce that the Government would give approval for QER to continue our careful development of an oil shale industry for Gladstone and Queensland.

The announcement follows a four year review of our project, which involved rigorous monitoring of our demonstration plant and industrial processes, and I'm very pleased to say that we passed with flying colours.

Essentially, the decision puts us in the same situation as any other industry looking to develop a project, and we will be required to undergo all the appropriate approvals and regulatory processes associated with such development.

All through the Review process QER has taken a careful, step-by-step approach to development, and that is not going to change. As we've said before, given the significant economic challenges we have to address, we will continue to carefully consider our next steps in developing the industry, and we're working through a range of options.

QER is determined to maintain our focus on keeping the local community informed of our plans. This Fuel For Thought column has now been running for more than three years, and through it we have been able to maintain a conversation with the community on our project. If you have missed previous editions they are available on our web site www.qer.com.au.

For anyone wanting to know more about our industry we have a visitor centre which is open 7 days a week, and we're very keen to have people pay us a visit. I'm happy to talk with people but the best point of contact, particularly if you want to organise a visit, is our Community Relations Coordinator Lyndell Fontaine, on 4971 1317.

Finally, QER very much appreciates the interest and support of many in the Gladstone community, and we are very thankful for the community being willing to give us a fair go.



Chris Anderson
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