

Waste to Energy

The Grampians Central West Waste and Resource Recovery Group (GCWRRG) is committed to establishing waste to energy as an important component of meeting the waste management and energy needs of the region.

WHAT IS 'WASTE TO ENERGY'?

'Waste to energy' is a term commonly used to describe the process of generating energy - such as electricity, heat or fuels - from waste.

BENEFITS OF WASTE TO ENERGY FACILITIES

Recovering energy from waste can deliver positive outcomes for the community and the environment as part of an integrated waste system. Generating energy from waste provides the opportunity to extract value from waste that would otherwise be landfilled. This helps reduce reliance on landfills and prolongs landfill capacity. It also helps reduce greenhouse gas emissions and environmental impacts through the diversion of organic material going to landfill. It reduces transport of waste where waste to energy facilities are established near the production of the feedstock. Waste to energy facilities can help provide economic and regional development through investment and job creation.

PROJECTS

The region has a long history of supporting waste to energy. Berrybank Farm at Windermere has a waste to energy system consisting of an anaerobic digester that turns piggery effluent (waste) into biogas to generate electricity energy, potting mix and an odourless organic fertiliser. The system has been in operation since 1989. The Beaufort Hospital Bioenergy Project has been operating since 2014. Utilising wood waste from a nearby sawmill a biomass boiler system has replaced LPG for heating and hot water saving the organisation significant money.

WORKING GROUP

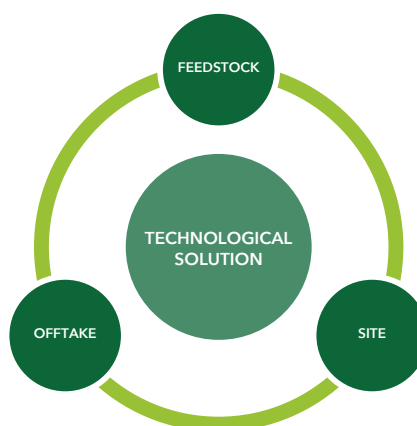
The GCWRRG has established a waste to energy working group that is convening the current local expertise and experience in w2e, building capacity in w2e across Western Victoria through knowledge sharing, Identifying the obstacles to implementing w2e projects in the region and identifying opportunities for w2e projects in Western Victoria.

FRAMEWORK

The GCWRRG has developed a waste to energy framework to support the establishment of economically viable and environmental sound waste to energy projects that reduce waste to landfill and provide alternative energy sources for local communities and businesses. The framework identifies the three key parameters to be addressed for any waste to energy project to succeed. These three parameters are feedstock, site, offtake. Once these are identified and understood, the appropriate technology, if viable can be identified.

RESEARCH

The GCWRRG is actively supporting the development of waste to energy in the region by sponsoring research into the calorific values of various waste streams, hosting and presenting at conferences and facilitating government support and involvement in potential projects across the region.



Waste to Energy in the Grampians Region

