

Woodlawn Eco-Precinct Update - May 2023

Greetings from the Woodlawn Eco-Precinct.

A message from Justin

While we remain focused on important localised issues and continue to work with the community and regulators, I was recently asked about the positive (national and global) impact that the Woodlawn operations contribute to - so I took a look at the numbers.

Over the last 12 months we have extracted 45.5 million m³ of landfill gas and produced 54,363 Megawatt hours of electricity. This is enough power to run 8,655 homes, every year. In producing this power we captured a further 22.3 million m³ of methane gas, which is the equivalent to preventing 425,495 tons of Carbon Dioxide from entering the atmosphere. By doing this, it equates to taking 92,000 cars off the road.

To put that in perspective, if 92,000 cars were lined-up bumper to bumper, they would stretch a distance of 400km, which is as far as from Tarago to Newcastle. Think of all of the emissions that this would produce and the negative impacts it could have had on climate change.

In addition, our solar farm produces 3,000 MWh of power annually which is enough to power another 2,000 homes, and we are diverting up to 70,000 tonnes of waste per year away from landfill, and turning it to compost, to be used for our mine rehabilitation activities.

Also, our Pylara Farm has been implementing creek rehabilitation for over 5 years now and has fenced and planted trees around Crisps Creek and the Mulwaree River. This project was initiated by our people as a local initiative, but it is now being recognised by Veolia globally as a significant biodiversity improvement for the environment.

Seeing this impact written on a page was quite rewarding and I thought it was worth sharing with you all this month.

*Justin Houghton
Woodlawn Eco-Precinct Manager*

An update on Waste Containers

Our waste transportation is one of the most environmentally sustainable in the world. By utilising the rail network and best available container technology, we prevent thousands of vehicle movements, limit emissions and minimise our impact on the environment. And while all of our

containers are designed with leak prevention seals and are routinely inspected upon loading and receipt, issues do arise.

Because of this, our maintenance program allows for quick repair, and gives us an opportunity to proactively test new solutions as they become available.

Over the past 2 years, we have completed roof and floor repairs on 145 containers that were identified through our inspection program, which were taken out of service until repairs were complete. At the end of 2022, we upgraded 80 older containers with new ones, with a further 100 coming by the end of the year.

We are very grateful for community feedback and when issues are brought to our attention we have been able to act on them.

As you may be aware, we recently received a prevention notice from the Environment Protection Authority in relation to container leaks. As a part of this process the EPA gave Veolia an opportunity to offer some actions and suggest ideas for rectification. Our investigations revealed that the leaks were predominantly occurring on the upward hill climb on Bungendore Road, when the vehicles were slanted. This helped us to understand why leaks were not being detected during the routine loading and receipt inspections, as they're undertaken on flat ground.

We offered to engage a third party to undertake specific repairs and water testing on a slope, so that we could simulate real-life conditions that occur on Bungendore Road. This process was accepted by the EPA and we have been actioning this.

We were directed by the EPA to carry out this process on all our series 300 and 500 containers (approximately 120 containers). Inspections, repairs and water testing has already been undertaken for 35 containers, with more testing underway until we get through them all. As we believe we have now developed a process that will help eliminate the issue, we will undergo this process on all our active waste containers (380 containers)..

Woodlawn Bioreactor

Woodlawn’s 12 month licence reporting period started on 6 September 2022. The table below is a record of the volumes received at site during the current licence reporting period 2022-23.

Source	Licence limit 6 Sep 2022 to 5 Sep 2023	Actual tonnage received From 6th September 2022
Waste to Bioreactor via Rail	900,000	474,909t
Local waste via road	125,000	80,460t
Waste to MBT by Rail	280,000	47,506t

World Day Of Cultural Diversity

Cultural diversity is about bringing people together from a diverse set of backgrounds and cultures, then creating an environment that not only recognises the differences between those cultures and backgrounds, but celebrates them. It helps create a space for people to be authentically themselves.

Woodlawn is passionate about being inclusive and creating a healthy workplace that embraces the different cultures we have onsite. We believe everyone deserves the opportunity to feel like they belong and contribute in our workplace.

This year for World Day of Cultural Diversity, Woodlawn held a site shared lunch where we met and shared stories about our backgrounds and our cultural history. There are many more cultures among us at Woodlawn. This diversity makes our site a much richer and tolerant place to work.



Woodlawn Bio-Energy

We're pleased to report that our ongoing site efficiency activities have resulted in the Woodlawn Bio-energy (WBE) site achieving 2596 MWhs more cumulative electricity generation than the same time in 2022. This is equivalent to 15 extra days of full capacity generation since the start of the year. This positive outcome is a testament to the culture of our teams, who are working together to share knowledge and build a more reliable gas supply and power generation system. More projects are planned within 2023 that will continue focusing on reliability and safe operation at the Woodlawn WBE site and we hope to bring further improvements.

Woodlawn MBT

Composting continues at Woodlawn MBT with the processing of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) and Food Organics and Garden Organics (FOGO) received from Sydney by rail. As of today, Woodlawn MBT has processed 46,300 tons of MSW and 4750 tonnes of FOGO in 2023.

The first FOGO compost batch processed on site was sent to Pylara farm for the purpose of using it as a soil conditioner. In addition, FOGO compost will also be trialled with topsoil cover for the project of rehabilitation of tailing dams.

Veolia Mulwaree Trust

The work we do at the Woodlawn Eco Precinct enables us to continue to support the local community and to date, we have contributed over \$13M to more than 1600 local projects through the Veolia Mulwaree Trust. In the last round there was a focus on community groups supporting families in relation to providing food and basic needs due to the increasing cost of living and we are proud to say that we were able to donate over \$10,000 towards these worthy causes.

In celebrating 16 years of its Creative Arts Scholarship initiative, the Veolia Mulwaree Trust also named three new artists as the recipients of the \$4,000 scholarships.



Presentation Photo: Attending the presentation of the Veolia Creative Arts Scholarships for 2023 were, from left, Scholarship Patron Jennifer Lamb, 2023 scholarship recipients Emmaleen Miller, Hannah Cooper, Miah-Tya Nungeena Gowland and panel member Rose Marin, Executive Officer of Southern Tablelands Arts. Absent is scholarship panel member Marea Rakete of Veolia.

The Veolia Creative Arts Scholarship supports artists in the fields of dance, theatre, drawing, printmaking, textile art, painting, digital art, writing, composition and performance of music, ceramics, screen arts, creative design, and photography.

Artists across the region are encouraged to apply for the scholarship in 2024. You can find dates and further information on www.veolia.com or by calling (02) 48222786 about the Veolia Creative Arts Scholarship program beginning early next year.

Community Liaison Committee

The new Veolia Community Liaison Committee (CLC) met for the first time on the 27 of April 2023. We would like to thank those of you who have decided to join the group and it is fantastic to have been able to secure a much broader representation of community members and associations in the process. The new members will shortly be listed on the Veolia Woodlawn website.

If you would like to join the CLC, it is not too late. Please contact us at woodlawn@veolia.com and we will share more information on how you can get involved. The commitment is 4 meetings a year, held at our site after business hours - if you would like to hear more please contact us.

Reporting Odour

We've noticed increased usage of the odour report form on Veolia's Woodlawn Eco-Precinct website. This is extremely valuable to us, so thank you. We would like to remind residents to report incidences of odour to us directly so we can assess and respond to the situation in real-time. By all means also report these instances to the EPA, but if you don't also report to us on the day, we often aren't made aware until a later time, delaying the process of investigation and making it difficult to resolve. Please note that we also report every incident we receive to the EPA.

Your feedback is incredibly valuable as we measure the performance of our operations and odour. To report incidents of odour, please fill out our online odour report form at veolia.com/anz/WoodlawnEcoPrecinct, contact Veolia's Community Feedback line on **1800 241 750** or send an email to woodlawn@veolia.com.