



WIMMERA AND CENTRAL HIGHLANDS BIOENERGY PROJECT

BIOENERGY PROJECT UPDATE 3, October 2012

The Bioenergy Project (Building Community Resilience and Adaptation to Climate Change through Distributed Bioenergy) is now focused on finalising the specifications for the system to be installed at Beaufort. The Project Manager, Daryl Scherger is also developing a regional biomass supply chain strategy and will be contacting organisations and businesses through the region to determine their potential to use bioenergy.

The Regional Supply Chain Study will provide a broad overview of biomass supplies and potential users throughout the region and should allow the community to identify opportunities for supplying, processing, transporting and using biomass for energy.

Planning for broader communication on the project has also commenced and part of that plan was a display about the project at the Bioenergy Expo held in Ballarat on the 5th of October. The display showed the community what the project is about and the benefits bioenergy has to offer. Feedback from attendees will inform the project and improve communication with the public.

Project Reference Group meetings occurred in the Wimmera and Central Highlands in October and November this year. Ten representatives of State and Local Government, the agriculture sector and community members interested in sustainability attended the Wimmera meeting to finalise the shape of a future Wimmera project. Nine attended the Central Highlands meeting to review the specifications and feedstock options for the Beaufort Hospital installation.

Daryl has located three local boiler suppliers interested in being involved in the project which is good news for the Beaufort Hospital and other community members interested in installing bioenergy.

Interest in bioenergy continues to grow as prices of fossil fuels rise. The benefits bioenergy can deliver for rural and regional communities will ensure it becomes as popular here as it is in Europe.

If you have any questions or would like to learn more about the project please contact Daryl on (03) 5349 1100 or email: daryl.scherger@pyrenees.vic.gov.au.

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