

WIMMERA AND CENTRAL HIGHLANDS BIOENERGY PROJECT

BIOENERGY PROJECT UPDATE 8, September 2013

With the appointment of a boiler supplier for Beaufort, the Bioenergy Project (Building Community Resilience and Adaptation to Climate Change through Distributed Bioenergy) is now focused on developing a Wimmera Southern Mallee project and promoting bioenergy.

On the 5th and 6th of August, the project manager, Daryl Scherger, conducted an information display on the project at Sheepvention in Hamilton. He had approximately 40 inquires about the project and bioenergy in general. Last year over 25,000 people visited the show and this year there were large crowds the display was seen by thousands.

Daryl gave a presentation to the Central Highland Economic Managers Network meeting on the 28th of August. This was an opportunity to promote the project and the economic potential of bioenergy in general. Council economic development staff will play a key role in the future development of bioenergy in the region, particularly in the area of biomass supply. The group provided some useful feedback on the proposed program for next year's forum.

A Wimmera Southern Mallee Reference Group meeting was held in Horsham on the 29th of August. Options for a Wimmera region project were discussed with a feasibility study on heating the Horsham Aquatic Centre with grain waste being proposed. There was also discussion on potential projects under the new Victorian Adaptation and Sustainability Partnership.

A meeting of the Central Highlands Reference Group is planned for the 16th of September to develop the structure of the project forum to be held in March or April next year. This forum will showcase the project and allow representatives from local and state government to see the Beaufort Hospital boiler in operation and learn about the potential of bioenergy.

As an aid to demonstrating bioenergy, the project has purchased a Biolite stove (pictured on right) which operates as a miniature combined heat and power plant. With just a handful of twigs, the stove can cook a meal and recharge a phone, torch or other small electronic device. A must have for the modern camper



If you have any questions or would like to learn more about the project please visit:
http://www.pyrenees.vic.gov.au/What_We_Do/Environment/Regional_Bioenergy_Project
or contact Daryl on (03) 5349 1100 or email:
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