

Woodlawn Eco-Precinct Update - April 2023

Greetings from the Woodlawn Eco-Precinct.

A message from Justin

I am pleased to report the ongoing success of our bioreactor gas extraction volumes, which remain at a 95% capture rate today, months after we first achieved the numbers last year. It has been a great achievement for all members of the Woodlawn operations team, especially as we know these results significantly help to minimise odour in the community. Bioreactor technology is extremely complex and high levels of gas capture can only be achieved with the right solutions, and when all elements of the process are consistently aligned. I would like to acknowledge the hard work and commitment of the team in not only bringing these improvements to our site, but ensuring they are maintained.

As you would be aware, a combination of innovations developed by our people over the last 2 years have led to these results. We undertook a complete redesign of the bioreactor waste surface to ensure better stormwater management and reduce leachate production, we implemented gas field balancing to optimise gas capture, we increased the number of gas extraction points (now at 173), and we established dedicated teams to manage waste cover installation and infrastructure maintenance. In addition to this, we also increased our evaporation capacity to almost double what it was last year to free up storage space in our dams (which were at capacity from heavy rainfall) and optimised the leachate treatment process.

We are very proud of these efforts, but we do not plan to stop here. We are continuing our work to design and implement new gas extraction strategies, and install more infrastructure. We are constantly thinking of better ways to do things for the betterment of the community and the environment, and we hope you are noticing a difference.

So thank you to the team for your hard work. And thanks also to the community - you have helped us to track improvements, and when you report issues as they arise, we are better placed to investigate and act quickly. Your feedback is always appreciated, so please keep it coming.

Justin Houghton

Woodlawn Eco-Precinct Manager

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	445,266t
Local waste via road	125,000	72,042t
Waste to MBT by Rail	280,000	38,795t

PLC Sydney Site Tour

We were happy to host a large group of science students from PLC Sydney for a tour of the Woodlawn Eco-Precinct this month. 20 students and 2 staff members were fascinated by the Bio-reactor and Bio-energy processes and we enjoyed their technical questions. It's always great to have school groups come and visit the site, especially senior science students who are eager to understand and see first hand the process of generating energy from waste in a Bioreactor environment.

Woodlawn Bio-Energy

We're pleased to report that our ongoing site efficiency activities have resulted in the Woodlawn Bio-energy site achieving 2110 MWhs more cumulative electricity generation than the same time in 2022. This is equivalent to 11 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 Veolia 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 33,600 tons of MSW and 3,532 tonnes of FOGO in 2023.

From an odour management perspective both Biofilters in the odour control system haven been overhauled to improve the effectiveness of the MBT's odour management system.

Environmental Compliance

On 30 March 2023, Veolia hosted NSW EPA staff from Wollongong and Queanbeyan for a site inspection of the Woodlawn Eco-Precinct. The site visit brought together EPA officers, many of whom were visiting the facility for the first time. A number of matters were discussed including Woodlawn's current and proposed water and leachate management strategy, odour mitigation measures and container maintenance.

Tarago Weather and Hydrogen Sulphide (H₂S) Stations

The installation and commissioning of two weather and Hydrogen Sulphide (H₂S) monitoring stations in the Tarago Village have been completed. Though the stations have only been operational for a short period of time, so far no H₂S readings have been registered. We are measuring H₂S because it is a gas that can be detected by humans as odorous at very low concentrations. We hope this data will help us to better understand and trace odour, so that if it is coming from the site, we can work to rectify any issues.

It must be noted that the stations will also detect H₂S from other natural sources such as organic matter or fuel emissions from trucks and cars, so we will need to work through this challenge too.

Data from the stations will be made publicly available and we are currently working to have this available by 31 May 2023. More information will be shared with you in the coming weeks, alongside instructions on how to interpret this data.

Veolia Mulwaree Trust

Next month, the Veolia Mulwaree Trust will be awarding the latest recipients of the Veolia Creative Arts Scholarship Program. We have supported more than 50 local artists since 2008 and we look forward to sharing details of the winners with you.

Community Liaison Committee

The Veolia Community Liaison Committee (CLC) will meet for the first time this year on 27 April 2023. Thank you to those who have decided to join the group. We have managed to secure a broader representation of community associations, which is fantastic, however we are still looking to improve gender diversity.

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. If these instances are only reported to the EPA, it delays the process of investigation and resolve. Please note that we 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.

Justin Houghton

Facilities Manager - Woodlawn Eco-Precinct