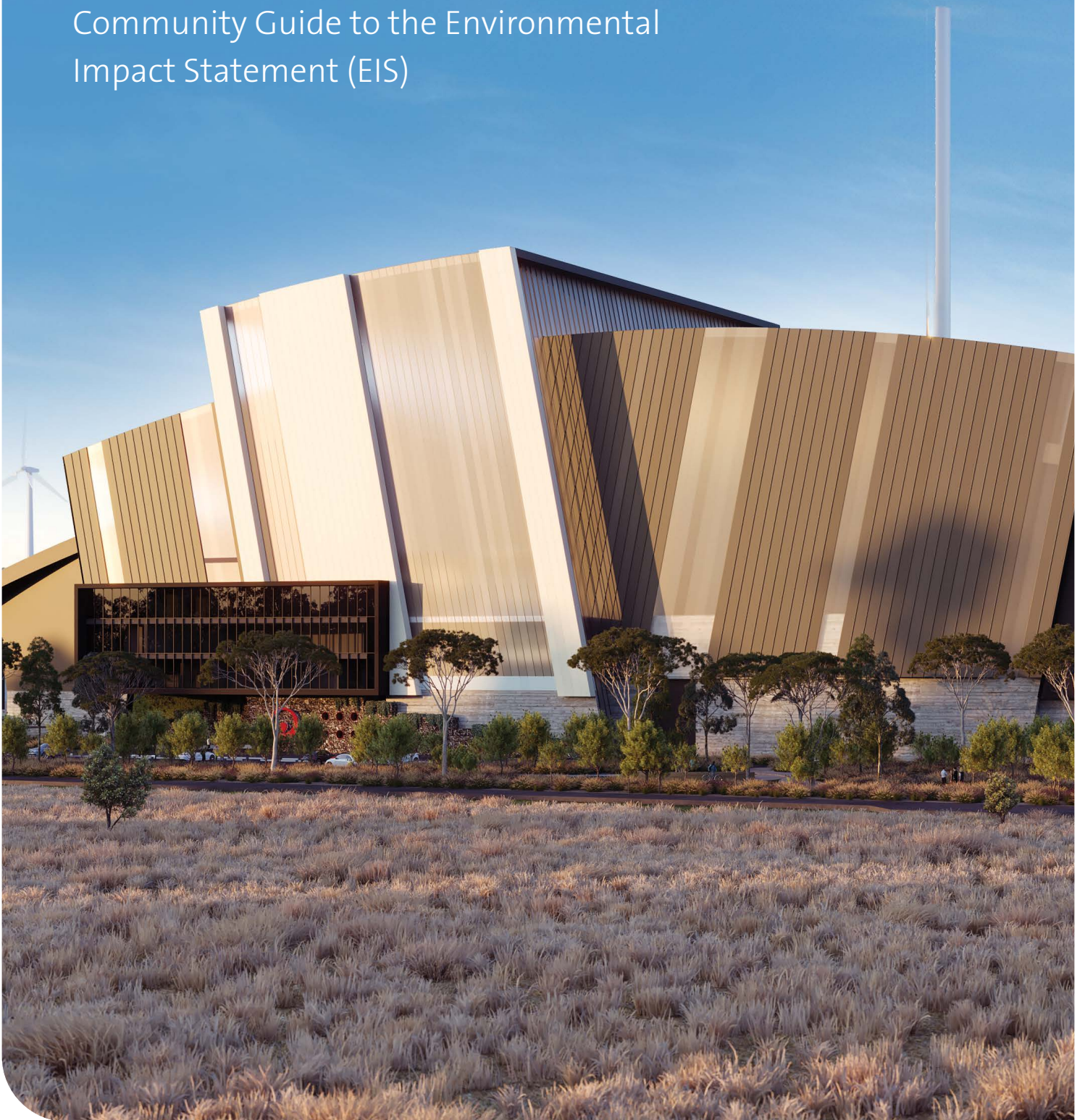


Woodlawn Advanced Energy Recovery Centre

Community Guide to the Environmental
Impact Statement (EIS)



Veolia acknowledges the First Peoples of Australia as the Traditional custodians of the Ngunawal land upon which this project is proposed. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and future, and to the many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities across which this project would interact. We recognise, and are grateful for, the long and deep cultural connection that the Ngunawal custodians maintain with their land; and their willingness to share and educate us about this relationship.

Community Guide to the EIS

This document is a community guide to the Woodlawn Advanced Energy Recovery Centre Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The EIS assesses environmental issues, including landscape character, visual amenity, economic impact, traffic, human health, air quality and cultural heritage. The EIS also identifies strategies to avoid, mitigate, and manage potential impacts. To view the full EIS, scan the barcode, or visit the Department of Planning and Environment website planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/projects/woodlawn-advanced-energy-recovery-centre



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Diverting 380,000 tonnes of waste from landfill is equivalent to filling 172 Olympic-size swimming pools.

Project Overview

Veolia is proposing to develop and operate the **Woodlawn Advanced Energy Recovery Centre (ARC)**, an energy recovery facility located at Veolia's Woodlawn Eco Precinct (the Eco Precinct) on Collector Road in Tarago, New South Wales.

Building on Veolia's existing waste management activities at the Eco Precinct, the new facility will be an important part of Veolia's continued investment in regional NSW. The project will create over 340 jobs, drive economic growth and support Australia's shift towards a sustainable circular economy.

The ARC will divert 380,000 tonnes of waste from landfill per year and turn it into energy, producing enough electricity to power 40,000 homes a year. In addition, over **20% of the recovered waste will be reused or recycled.**

THE PROJECT WILL INVOLVE:



Construction of an energy recovery facility (ERF) for the thermal treatment of non-recyclable waste



Capacity to generate up to 30 megawatts of electrical energy



On-site management of residual by-products generated by the ARC, including construction of an encapsulation cell



Infrastructure to facilitate construction and operation of the project, including a new access road

01 INDICATIVE PROJECT MILESTONES

Indicative timeline for construction and operation

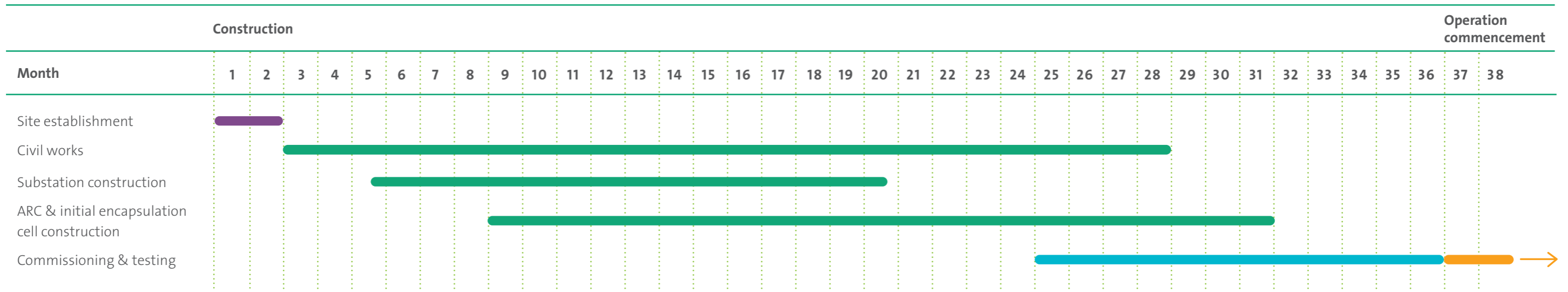
If approved, construction of the project is expected to be undertaken over a period of about three years, starting around late 2023. Operation of the facility is expected to be about 25 years.

The project's development will include the following stages:

- Site establishment
- Civil works
- Substation construction
- ARC and initial encapsulation cell construction and plant installation
- Commissioning and testing
- Operational licensing



INDICATIVE TIMELINE FOR CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION

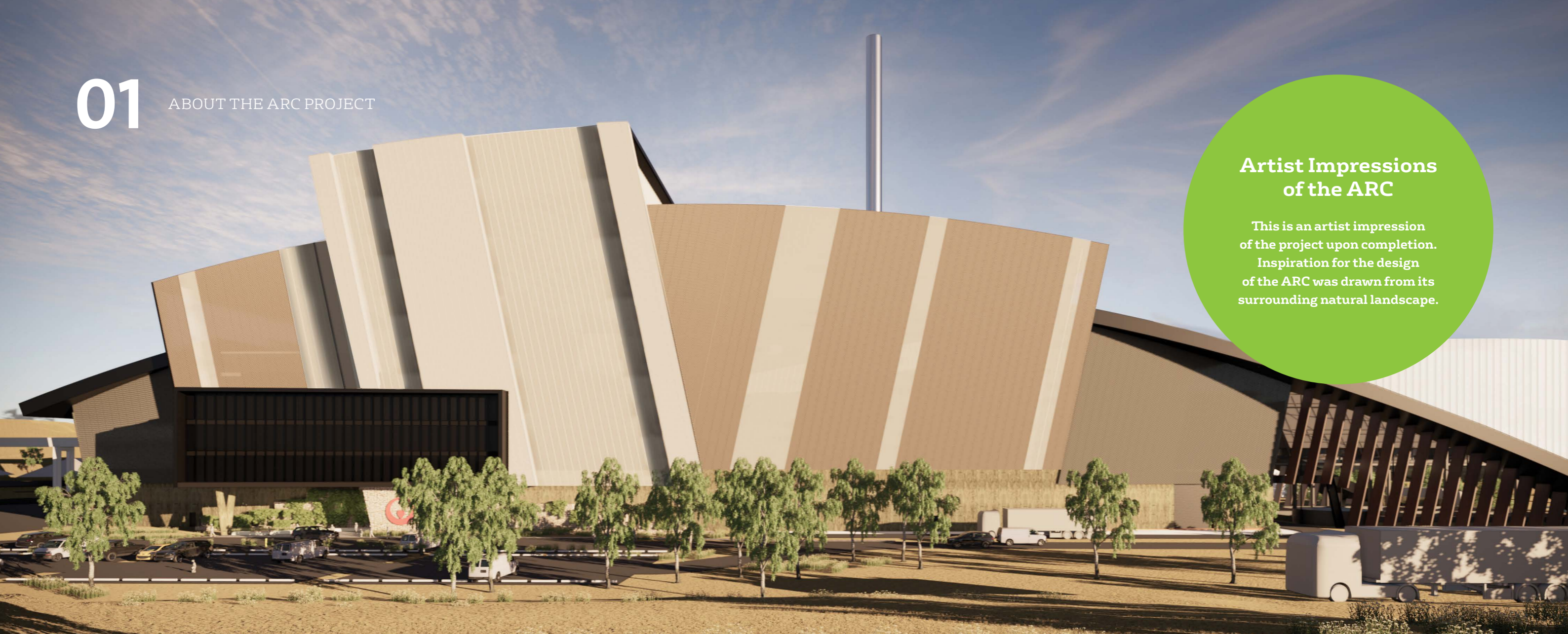


01

ABOUT THE ARC PROJECT

Artist Impressions of the ARC

This is an artist impression
of the project upon completion.
Inspiration for the design
of the ARC was drawn from its
surrounding natural landscape.



This is an artist impression of the aerial view **upon completion**. The existing bioreactor landfill (located at the back of the photo) will be rehabilitated over time.

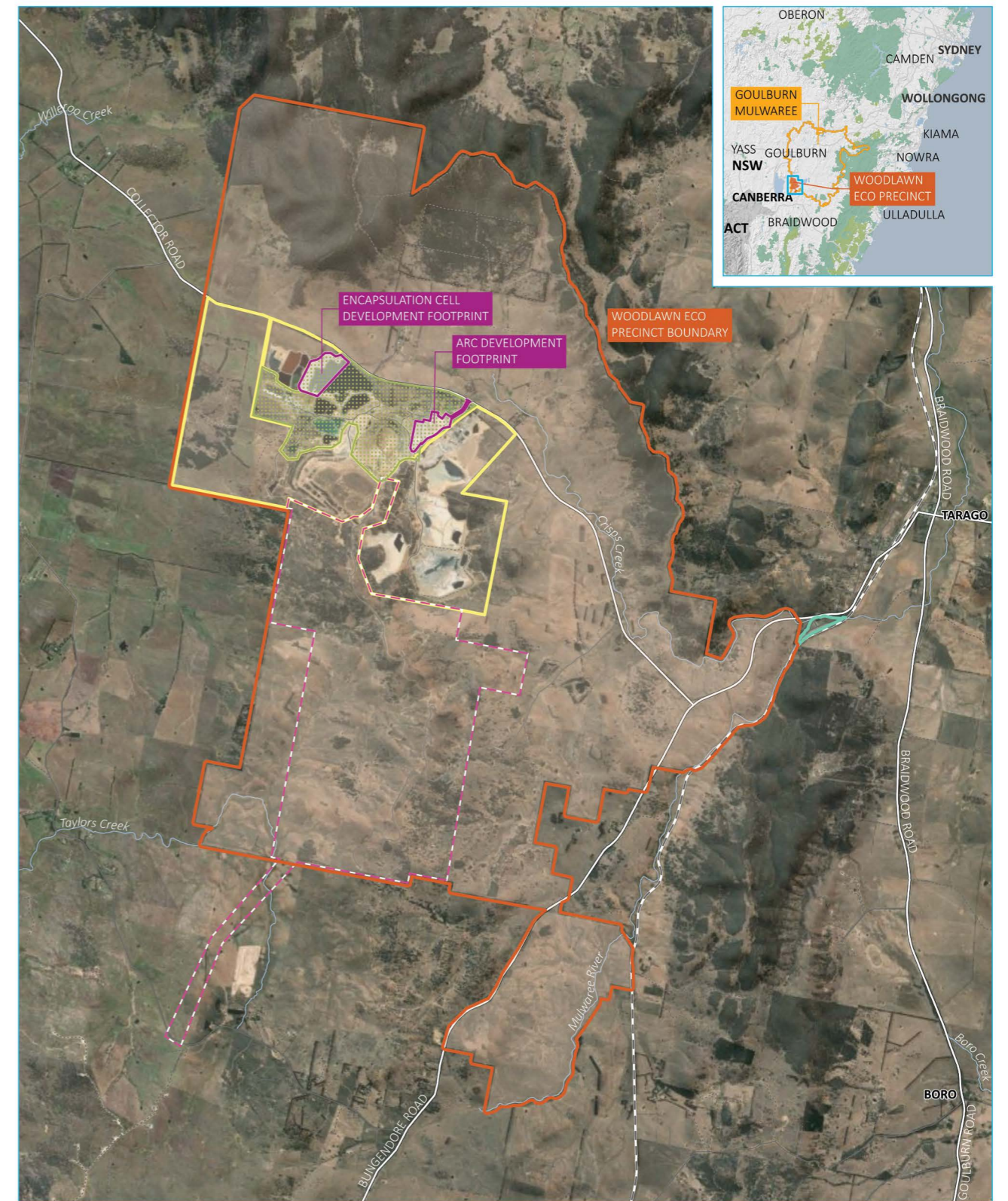
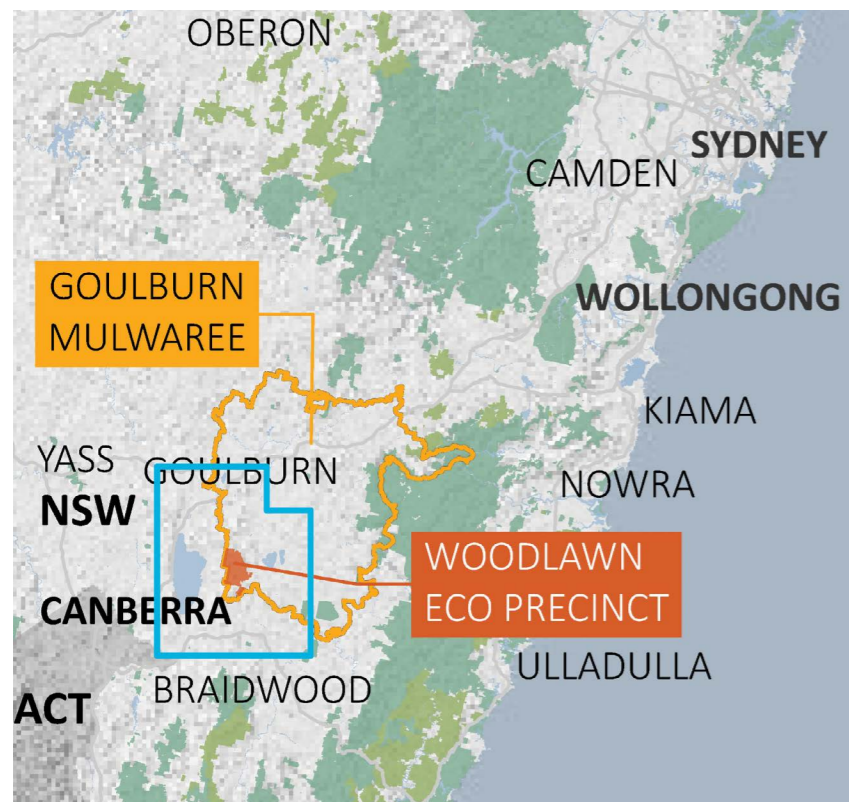


This is an artist impression of the aerial view **in the future**.

01 ABOUT THE ARC PROJECT

Map of the ARC development footprint

The proposed facility will be located in regional NSW, at Veolia's existing Woodlawn Eco Precinct. The development footprint represents the extent of actual surface area proposed for the project. It has been refined to be as small as possible to minimise environmental impact. All new works for the project will occur within the development footprint which is made up of two areas: the ARC development footprint and the encapsulation cell development footprint.



- KEY**
- Development footprint
 - Veolia integrated waste management operations
 - Woodlawn Eco Precinct
 - Crisps Creek Intermodal Facility (IMF)
 - Woodlawn Mine operations area
 - Woodlawn Wind Farm
 - Rail line
 - Major road
 - Minor road
 - Vehicular track
 - Watercourse

Woodlawn ARC regional and local setting

Woodlawn Advanced Energy Recovery Centre
Environmental impact statement
Figure ES1



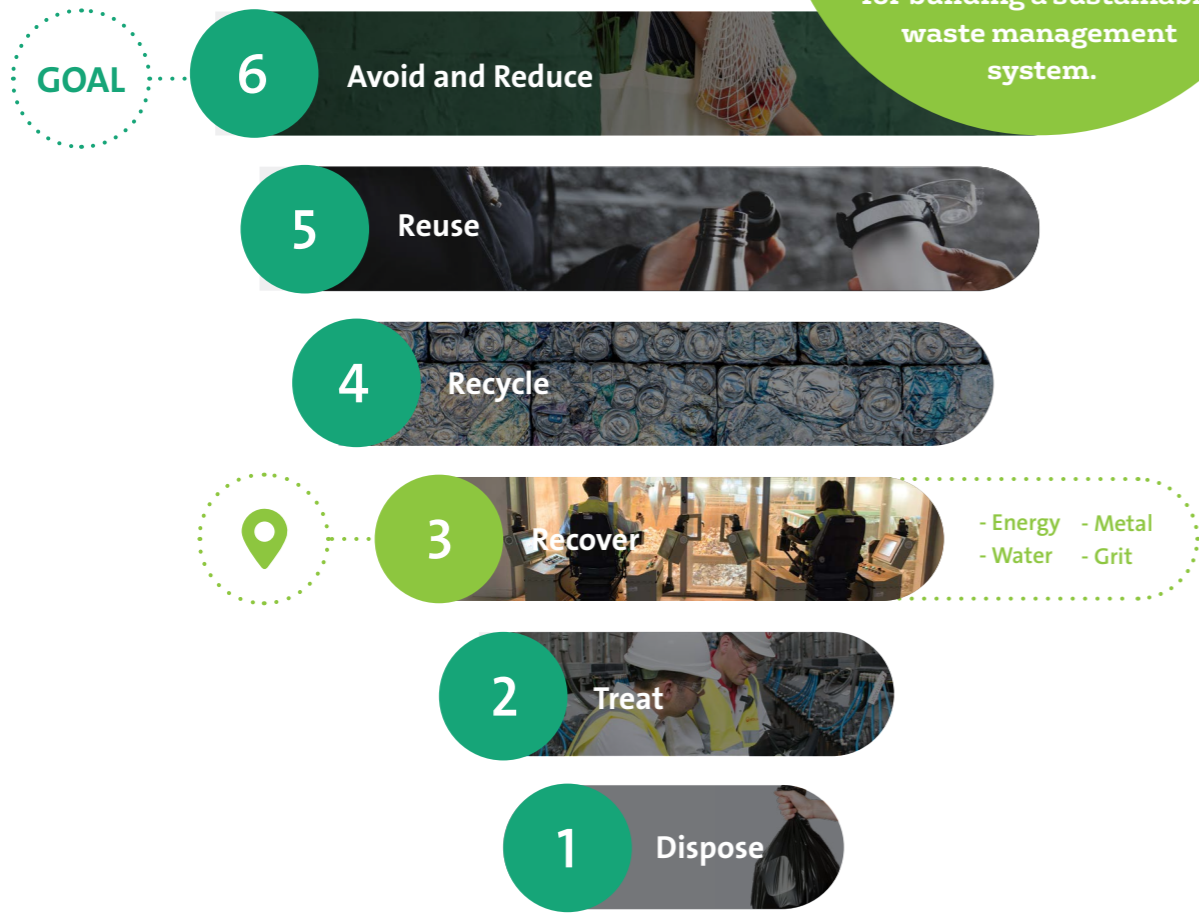
01

ABOUT THE ARC PROJECT

Why is the ARC needed?

Where we cannot first avoid, reuse or recycle waste, the next most sustainable way to minimise environmental impact is to recover energy. Recovering energy from waste extracts value from non-recyclable material, and is the way forward in Australia if we want to lower carbon emissions and reduce the need for landfill. Energy from Waste plays an important role in the development of the circular economy, and is recognised by both the NSW and Federal governments as a preference to landfilling.

Until all products and materials used in Australia are designed with an end of life solution, and while Australians get better at reducing, reusing and recycling, energy recovery is necessary for building a sustainable waste management system.



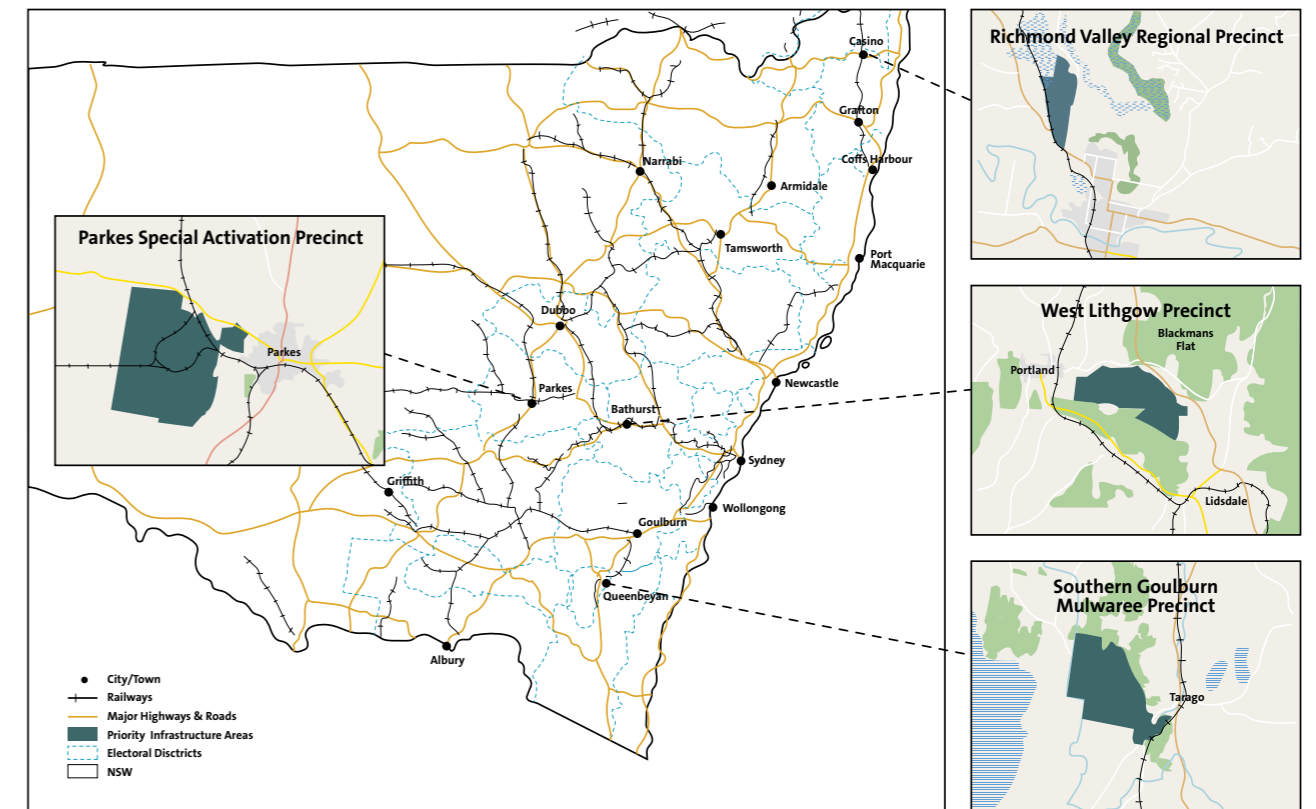
Energy from Waste is a relatively new technology in Australia. However, it is proven and widely used overseas, with more than 450 plants operating in Europe. Veolia operates more than 65 energy recovery facilities globally and will soon manage Australia's first two facilities, which are under construction in Perth.

Energy from Waste is recognised as a more sustainable waste management technique for residual waste (i.e. waste that cannot be easily reused or recycled) than disposal to landfill. This is because it allows value to be recovered in the form of energy, as well as enables recycling of metals and reuse of aggregates. It also manages the waste immediately.

The NSW Government has recognised Energy from Waste as a necessary addition to sustainable waste management in the state. The recent NSW Waste Management and Sustainable Materials Strategy 2041 has identified the need for at least one energy recovery facility to serve Greater Sydney by 2030 and three more by 2040.

The NSW Government also released the Energy from Waste Infrastructure Plan in September 2021 which identified four locations in NSW as Priority Infrastructure Areas for development of Energy from Waste facilities. One of these four locations is the Southern Goulburn Mulwaree Precinct, which is the location of Veolia's Woodlawn Eco Precinct.

Priority Infrastructure Areas





Why locate the ARC at the Woodlawn Eco Precinct?

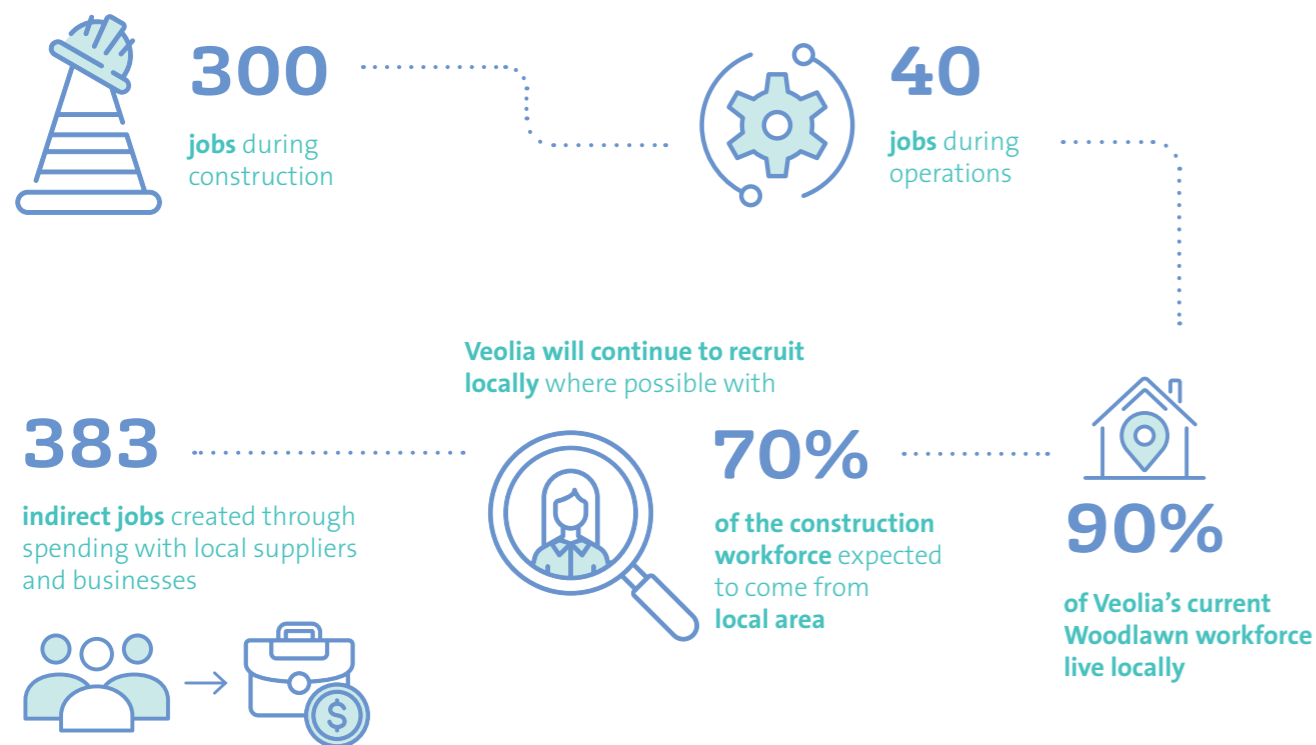
The Eco Precinct is a suitable site for the ARC project for the following key reasons:

- **EXISTING LAND USE**
The project is complementary with existing land use at the Eco Precinct which has operated as a major waste management and disposal centre for over 20 years.
- **EXISTING INFRASTRUCTURE**
The project can utilise existing approved rail and road transport infrastructure licences from the Eco Precinct.
- **EXISTING WASTE SUPPLY**
Residual waste is already being sent to the Eco Precinct. The project will simply divert 380,000 tonnes of it from landfill per year to supply the ARC, achieving a more sustainable outcome.
- **LOCATION**
The Eco Precinct is located within the Southern Goulburn Mulwaree Precinct, a location identified by the NSW Government's EfW Infrastructure Plan as one of four priority infrastructure areas to deliver EfW infrastructure in NSW.

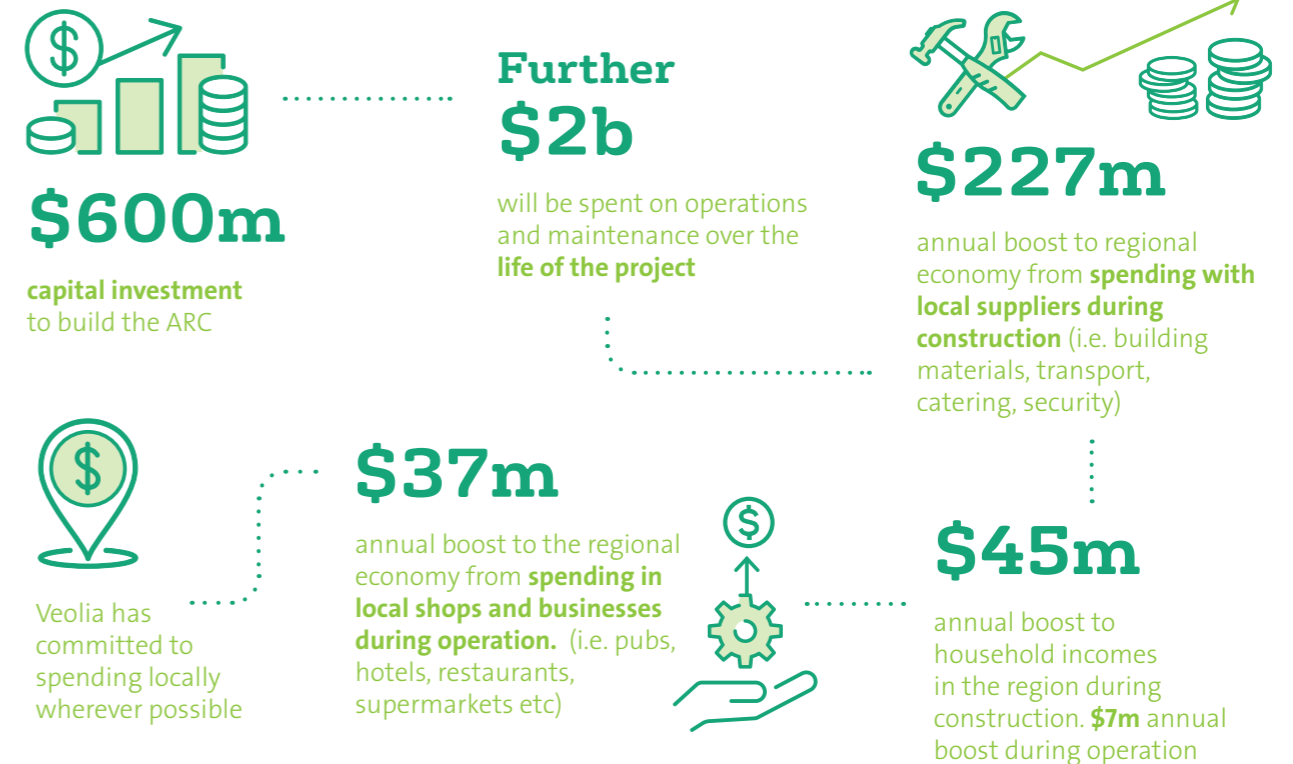
01 ABOUT THE ARC PROJECT

Project Benefits

Bringing jobs to regional NSW



Boosting the local economy



Delivering a circular economy



How Energy from Waste works

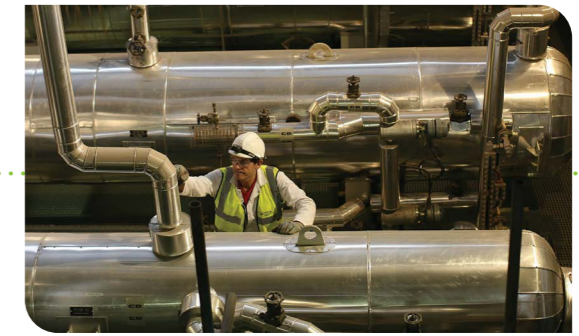
Energy from Waste technology is proven and is safely being used in developed countries around the world.

It works in a similar way to conventional coal or gas combustion, where steam is generated from heat and directed into a turbine to produce electricity.

Instead of using fossil fuels, Energy from Waste technology has been adapted and updated to use non-recyclable waste as the fuel source. For each tonne of coal the same energy output can be sourced from three tonnes of waste, reducing both our reliance on fossil fuels and the amount of waste sent to landfill.



1 Waste is dried and combusted at high temperatures



2 Heat is generated and steam produced



3 Gases are cleaned to the highest standard worldwide and no liquids or odours are discharged



4 The steam drives a turbine coupled to a generator to produce electricity

In addition to the energy produced, three other materials are recovered during the process:



Bottom ash: stones, grit, glass and rocks are collected for use in the construction industry



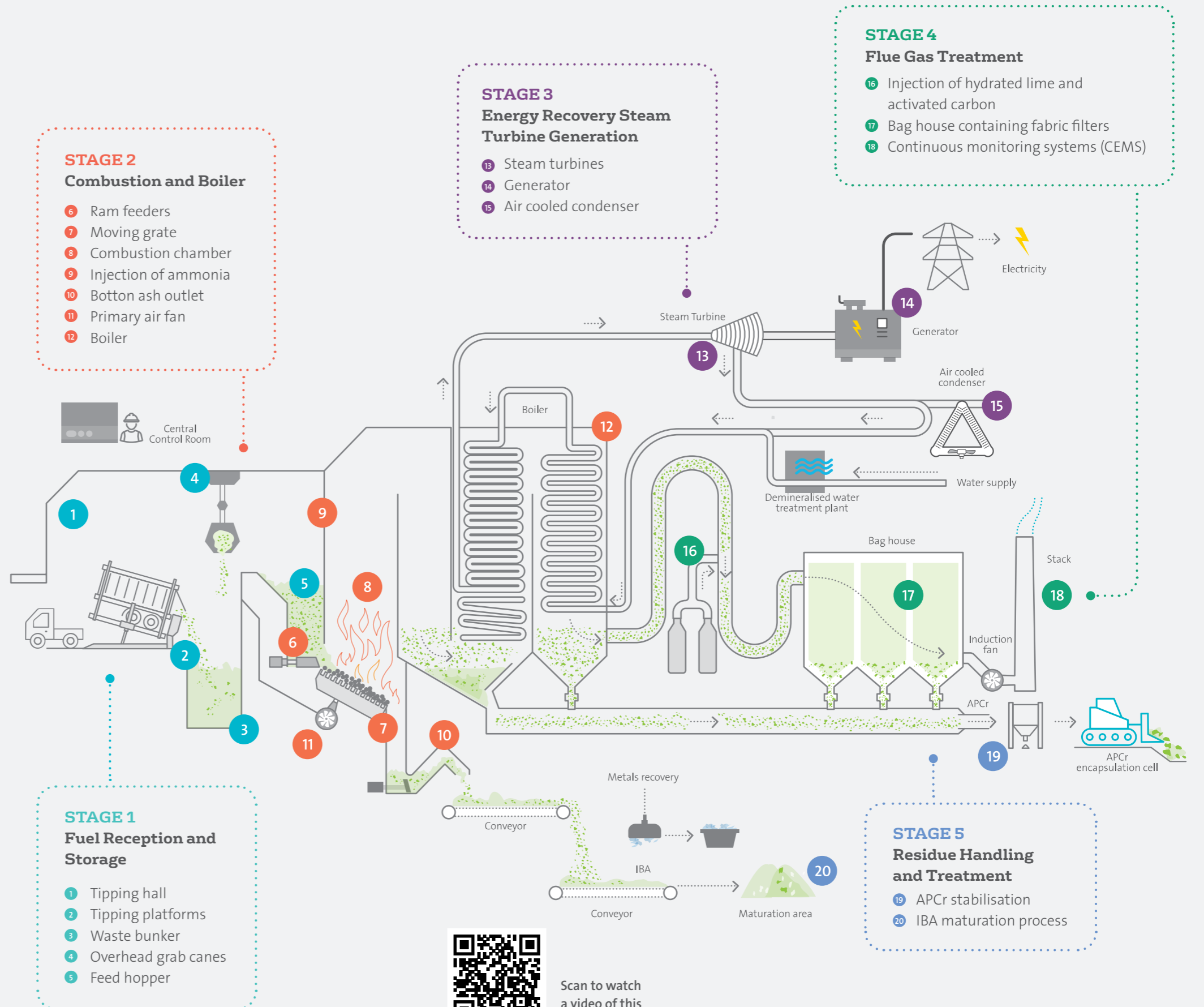
Fine dust: captured and managed within the site



Metals: collected for recycling

How the technology works

- STAGE 1**
Waste that can't be recycled is tipped into the waste storage bunker. The waste is lifted by overhead cranes and placed on the feed hopper.
- STAGE 2**
The waste is fed over a moving grate, where it is thermally treated at temperatures above 850 degrees for two seconds. Ammonia is injected to control oxides of nitrogen.
- STAGE 3**
Above the furnace is a large boiler, where the resulting superheated steam is used to drive a turbine coupled to a generator to produce energy. After exiting the turbine, the steam passes through an air cooled condenser to return water to the boiler system.
- STAGE 4**
Hydrated lime and activated carbon are injected to the flue gas to neutralise its acidity and to adsorb pollutants. The flue gas passes through a filter bag house, and particulates within the gases are removed by filter bags. Clean gases are released through the stack. These gases are monitored continuously to ensure environmental limits are met.
- STAGE 5**
Particulates removed by the filtering process will be stabilised and sent to a purposely built encapsulation cell within the site. An electromagnetic separator removes metal from the ash, which is then recycled. Remaining ash will be either conveyed to a designated area for maturation and eventually turned into alternative aggregate material.



Scan to watch a video of this process

02 WHAT IS AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (EIS)?

What is an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)?

This project is classified as a State Significant Development. A State Significant Development is typically a development that has significance to the State of NSW based on a range of factors such as its size, nature, location, strategic importance of the development to the State, or potential impacts.

Under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (NSW), all State Significant Developments must go through a comprehensive assessment process, which includes the development of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

The purpose of an EIS is to assess the economic, environmental and social impacts of the project. It helps the community, as well as government agencies and the consent authority, to get a full understanding of the project and its impacts so that they can make informed decisions on its merits and potential impacts. An EIS assesses the expected construction and operation impacts of a project, including a range of environmental and social factors, and how potential impacts will be managed and mitigated.

As part of the planning process, the EIS is publicly exhibited, so members of the community and interested organisations and other stakeholders can look at the technical assessments in detail and provide their views on the proposal to the NSW Department of Planning and Environment.

The NSW Department of Planning and Environment completes its assessment of the merits and impacts of the project in accordance with government legislation, policies and guidelines, and prepares an assessment report.

To view the full detail of the EIS, please visit the ARC project page on the NSW Department of Planning and Environment's website planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/projects/woodlawn-advanced-energy-recovery-centre. You can also learn more about the project at Veolia's website veolia.com/anz/thearc.



Scan to view the full EIS



WE ARE HERE

Engagement Activities

Veolia has been a part of the local community around Woodlawn for over 20 years and prides itself on being a valuable contributor to the area.

A wide range of community events and engagement activities have been carried out throughout EIS preparation to ensure that local residents have had a chance to understand the project and ask questions. An overview of engagement activities can be viewed below. You can also read more about community engagement in Chapter 7 of the EIS.

Briefings and consultations



1 **online session** connecting the Eco Precinct CLC with another CLC for a Veolia operated EfW facility in Staffordshire, United Kingdom

42 **face-to-face briefings** with government agencies, elected officials and other interested organisations

61 **face-to-face or digital stakeholder briefings**



10 **site visits** with elected representatives, government agencies and local council

9 Registered Aboriginal Parties attended a **virtual tour, discussion and in-person site visit**

14 **Aboriginal stakeholder organisations registered for consultation**

3 online community information sessions
33 households attended

2 community pop-up sessions
+30 engagements

Community outreach

+450 project brochures distributed

8 community newsletters

10 community events



four letterbox drops to properties within a 10km radius of the Eco Precinct

over 100 properties door knocked (adjacent to or near the Eco Precinct)

Media reach

2 community open days

45 people attended

7 CEO or project interviews with local, state and national media

2 media site visits

1 media release announcing the project

14 media statements

1 Meet the Experts information sessions

44 individuals attended

over 60,600 people reached through advertising in the Goulburn Post and Tarago Times

over 16,500 people reached from a number of social media advertising posts, geo-targeted to a 40km radius to promote upcoming community events

over 4,350,800 total potential audience reach from coverage relating to the ARC through print, online, TV and radio

Community feedback



+2,172 unique visitors to the project website



15 project enquiries received via phone



20 emails received via the dedicated project email address

Community Feedback

Since community engagement commenced in February 2021, feedback about the ARC has been varied. Interest in the project came from the community of Tarago and residents in the broader local areas surrounding the Eco Precinct. An overview of the topics raised by local people is set out here. Further detail on this feedback, and how Veolia has responded, can be found in Chapter 7 of the EIS.



Assessment of Impacts and Mitigations

The EIS and accompanying assessments have been prepared by independent technical specialists in accordance with the instructions issued by the NSW Department of Planning and Environment (DPE).

Each impact assessment clearly outlines the assessment methods used, the current environment, the predicted impacts of the project and the proposed management measures that will be implemented by Veolia. Appendix M of the EIS provides a summary of all the mitigation measures that will be required to be implemented.

Key outcomes of the assessments are outlined in the following section. You can view the full detail of each assessment by reading the corresponding chapters of the EIS.



Scan to view
the full EIS



The predicted air quality levels for the ARC are safely below limits set by the EPA.

Air Quality and Odour

There are strict rules on managing environmental impacts from energy recovery facilities. If approved, the ARC will be required to meet current international best practice standards to ensure no human health or environmental risks.

In addition the NSW Government updated its NSW Energy from Waste Policy Statement with a set of air quality criteria that is the most stringent in the world. These standards were reviewed by the NSW Chief Scientist, then applied to the air quality assessment undertaken for the EIS.

If the ARC is approved there will be independent oversight and regulation by NSW's Environment Protection Authority (EPA) for the lifetime of its operation.

THE AIR QUALITY ASSESSMENT HAS SHOWN THE FOLLOWING RESULTS:

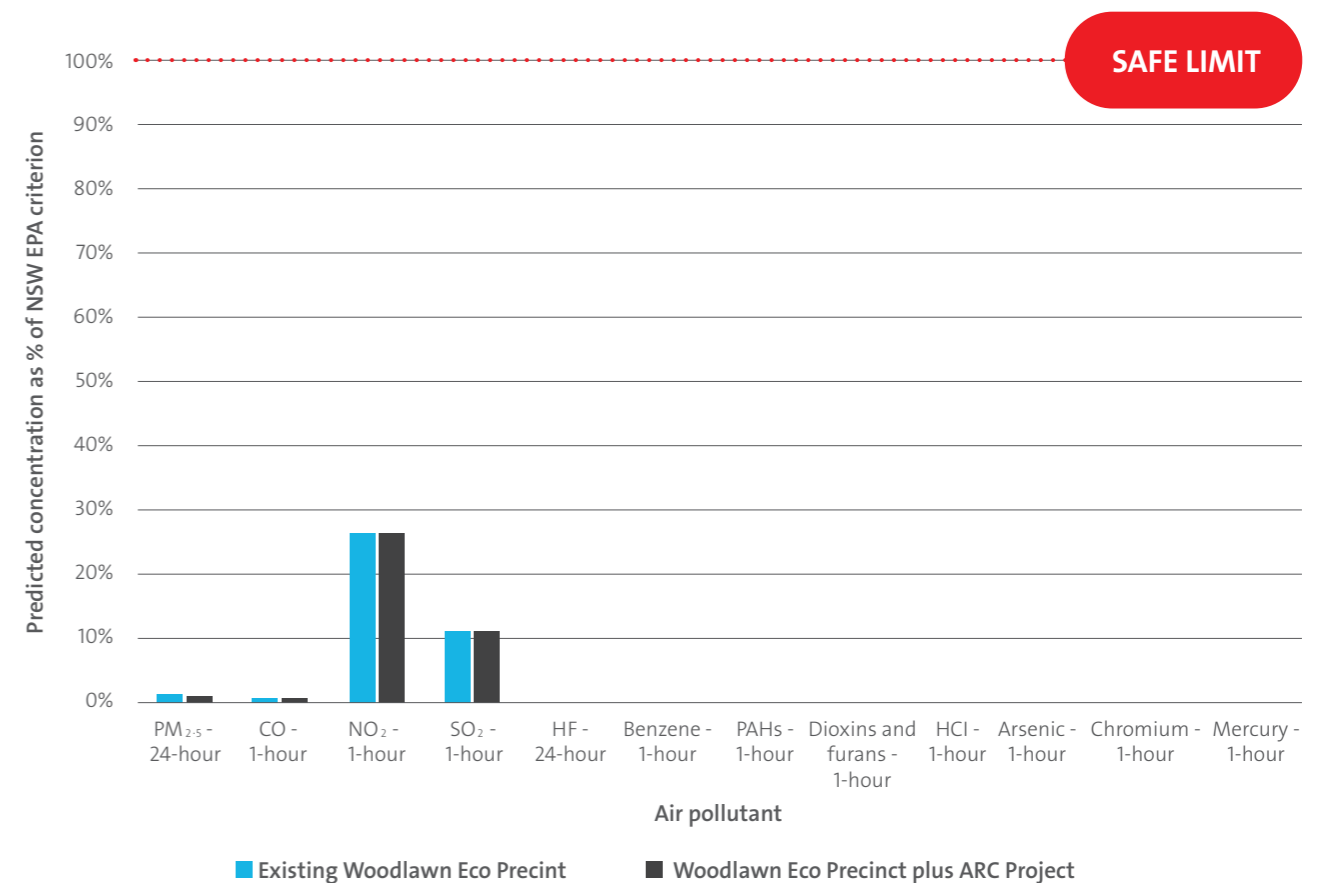
- ✔ The predicted air quality levels for the ARC are safely below the limits set by the NSW EPA to protect human health and the environment.
- ✔ The introduction of the ARC will not significantly change the current air quality impacts from the Eco Precinct.
- ✔ The project has adopted best available technology for controlling air pollutant emissions.
- ✔ The air quality impact at sensitive locations (schools, residential areas, agriculture etc.) is predicted to be negligible.
- ✔ The project is not predicted to generate odour.

The Air Quality Impact Assessment (AQIA) was completed in accordance with guidelines from the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA)'s Approved Methods for Modelling and Assessment of Air Pollutants in New South Wales.

Three emission scenarios were developed for emissions from the ARC and the impacts of each were modelled. The scenarios included two 'reference case' scenarios using 12 months of real-world emissions data from a Veolia-owned Energy from Waste facility in Staffordshire in the United Kingdom. The first represents expected emissions from the ARC under normal operations, and the second represents maximum (worst case) emissions that were recorded in Staffordshire. In addition, a third scenario represents the 'regulatory case', which adopted the new stringent emission limits documented in the NSW Energy from Waste Policy Statement.

The AQIA found that for all scenarios the introduction of the project will not significantly change air quality impacts currently associated with the Eco Precinct. It also found that **air quality impacts associated with the ARC are negligible** at surrounding sensitive assessment locations, including homes, farms and the local school.

The graph below shows the predicted concentration of different air pollutants from the ARC, as a percentage of the NSW EPA's permitted limit. It takes into account cumulative impacts assessed through the combination of regional monitoring datasets and model predictions, and shows there is no significant change to current air quality. You can read more about air quality in Chapter 8.1 of the EIS.



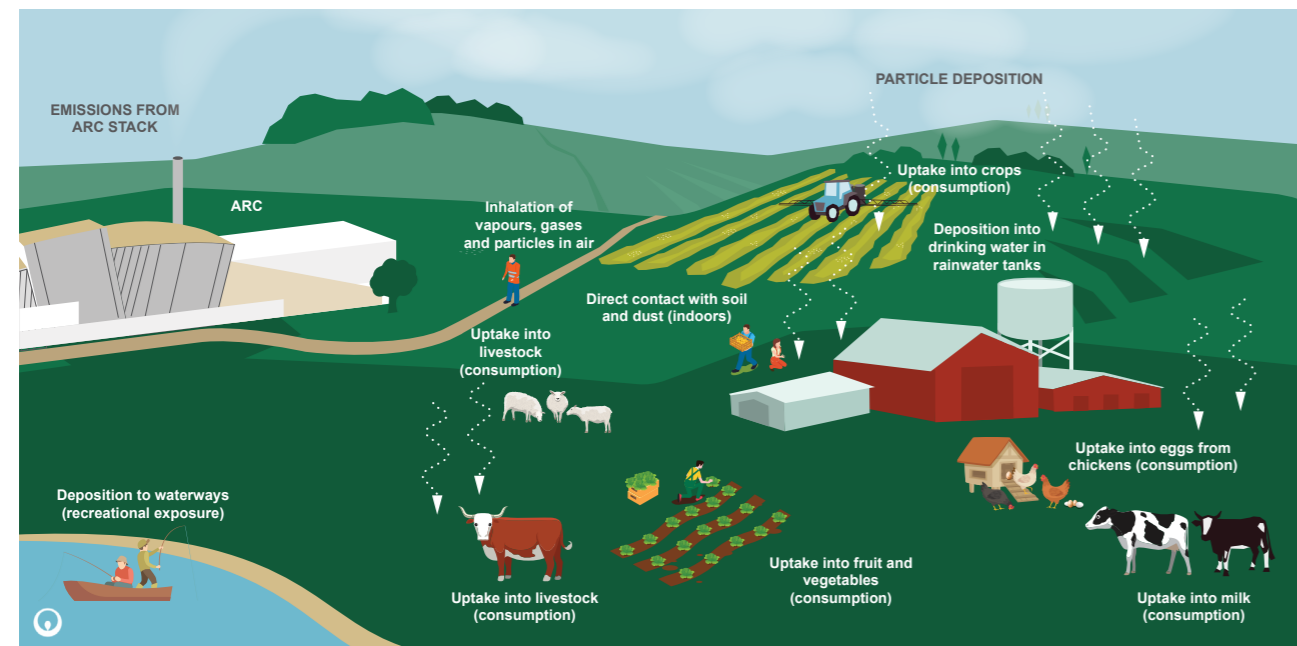
Human Health

Independent experts have considered possible impacts on the health of the community surrounding the ARC, which includes the impact of emissions into the air, and any deposits at ground level. Particular attention was paid to sensitive areas, like schools and childcare centres, residential areas and agricultural land uses.

The Human Health Risk Assessment looked at the different ways people could be impacted by emissions from the project, including:

- **Inhalation**
- **Incidental ingestion of indoor dust and soil**
both recreational water bodies and tank water used in homes – this includes the entry of substances into the body when eating, drinking, smoking, biting nails, swallowing
- **Skin contact**
- **Eating or drinking local produce**
including fruit and vegetables, milk, eggs, and meat
- **Drinking water**
collected from roofs in rainwater tanks
- **Swimming in local lakes and rivers**

The Human Health Risk Assessment for the ARC project has found that emissions from the ARC would not present a risk to human health.



The assessment looked at how people might be exposed to emissions in the short and long term, and whether or not this would impact human health. The results were calculated at all sensitive locations in the surrounding community using Australian guidance as detailed by enHealth (2012) and NSW Chief Scientist (2020) advice.

The Human Health Risk Assessment found that the ARC project will be safely within NSW regulations and guidelines for health, water quality and food production.

The Human Health Risk Assessment considered the impacts of the project on the quality of water in rainwater tanks at residential and rural properties near the site. It also looked at the impact on groundwater quality and recreational water quality in Lake George and Lake Bathurst. **Predicted water concentrations in tanks will be well within drinking water guidelines, it will still be safe to source drinking water from groundwater, and the water quality in the lakes will not be affected by emissions from the ARC.**

The assessment has looked at the potential impact of air emissions from the ARC on crops and produce grown in the area. The assessment has shown that **there would not be any measurable change in soil quality as a result of emissions, nor would the project change existing soil conditions or water quality. Farms with organic farming status would not be affected.**

The study looked at the impact of food consumption of homegrown produce from the area, including fruit and vegetables, eggs, dairy, beef, and lamb.

It also considered the sale of crops and produce into the commercial market, where there are strict rules under the Food Standards Code. **Results showed that the maximum predicted concentrations in local produce would be well below limits prescribed in food standards.**

If approved, the development would have an Environment Protection Licence that requires ongoing monitoring of emissions.

If you would like to understand more about how health impacts have been assessed, you can read the full human health risk assessment in Section 8.2 of the EIS.

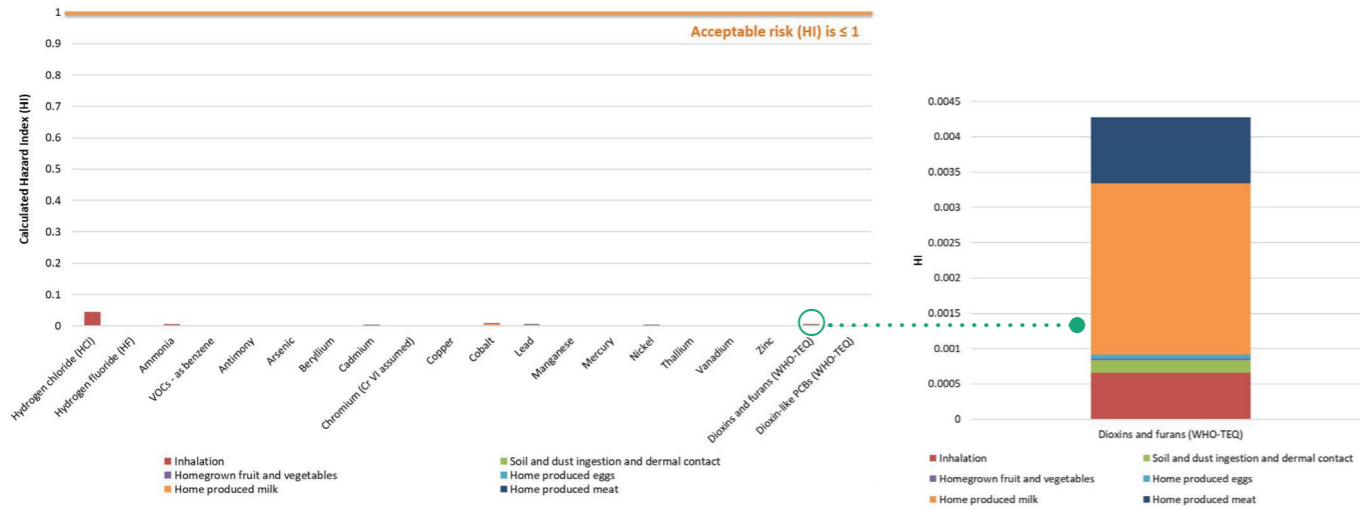


Scan to view the full EIS

Human Health

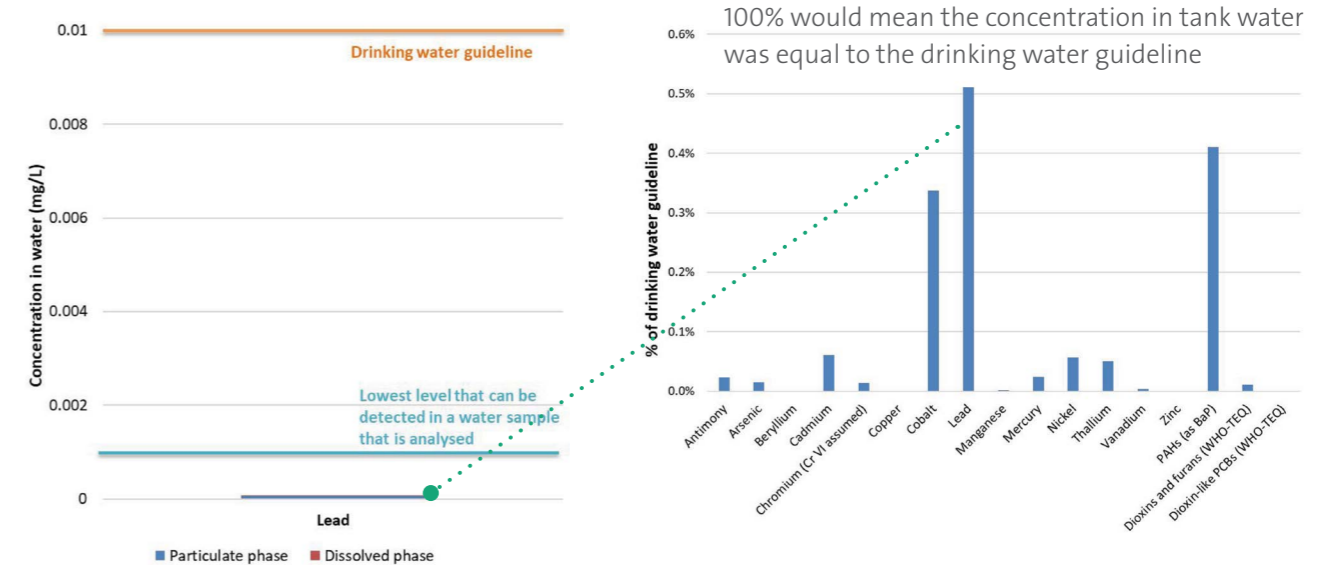
Air emissions

The below graph shows the predicted maximum exposure to air emissions from the ARC. The limit of 1 represents the maximum acceptable risk, or hazard index (HI). The graph shows the calculated risks are well within acceptable limits. A micro-view of the dioxins and furans level is also provided.



Rainwater tanks

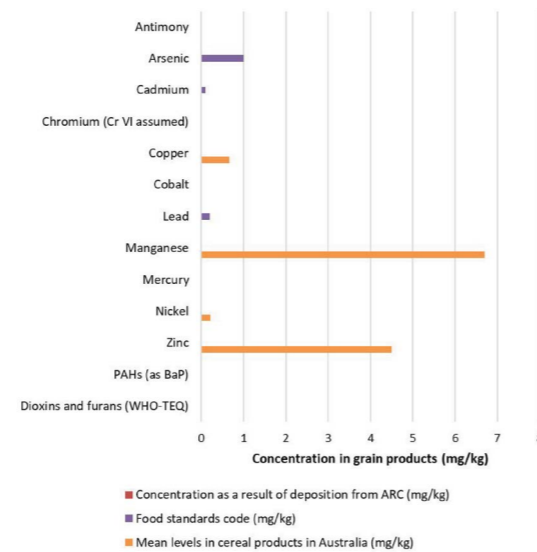
The below graph shows the maximum concentrations in rainwater tanks as a percentage of the Australian Drinking Water Guideline. The graph shows that concentrations from the ARC are well within safe drinking water limits for human health. In fact, the concentrations are predicted to be so low that they would not even be detectable using the best available analysis technology.



ARC emissions will be safely within NSW regulations and guidelines for health, water quality and food production.

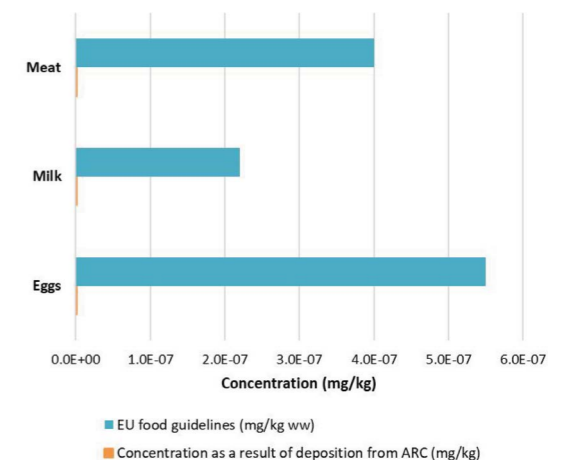
Grain products

The graph shows the concentration levels as a result of the ARC in red. These are so low that they are barely detectable on the graph. The purple bar represents the safe food standards code, where regulated. All ARC concentrations are well within these limits, meaning there is no unsafe impact to produce. The orange bar represents the average concentration in cereal products in Australia.



Produce

The graph shows the European Union maximum (safe) levels in food in blue, which have been adopted in the absence of Australian regulations. The ARC concentration levels are in orange, showing the levels are well within safe limits.



Greenhouse Gas and Climate Change

Greenhouse gases trap heat in the atmosphere of the Earth and are a cause of climate change and global heating. The greenhouse gas (GHG) impact assessment for the project calculated future annual GHG emissions from the Eco Precinct, with and without the ARC in operation. It found that the project is predicted to have 50% fewer emissions per year with the ARC in operation, compared to the 'do-nothing' scenario where waste continues to go to landfill and the same quantity of electricity is generated at coal fired power stations.

The overall impact of the project would save approximately 74,000 tonnes of greenhouse gases per year, which is the equivalent emissions of taking around 32,400 cars off the road in Australia. You can read more about the greenhouse gas and climate change assessment in section 8.3 of the EIS.

Noise and Vibration

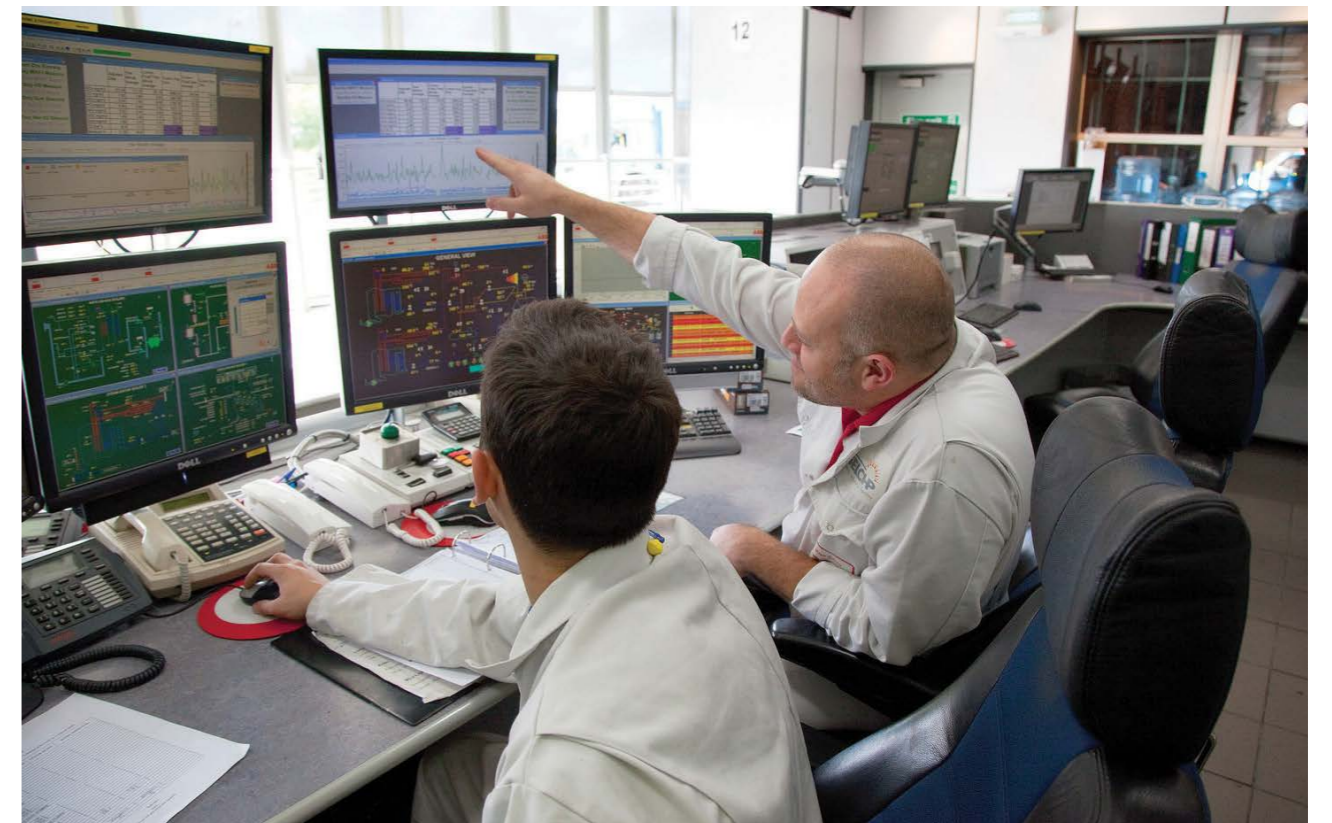
A noise and vibration impact assessment has been carried out for the project. The assessment considered noise and vibration impacts from both construction and operation phases of the ARC, and looked at the cumulative noise levels from simultaneous operation of other approved developments at the Eco Precinct, including the Woodlawn Mine.

Noise impacts were assessed at the nearest noise sensitive locations to the project and included both residential and industrial premises.

The assessment found that noise levels from both the operation and construction of the project are predicted to comply with all relevant noise regulations.

This includes sleep disturbance levels and road traffic noise. Vibration impacts from construction are highly unlikely given the significant distances between the closest proposed construction activities and nearest residences, which are more than 4 km away. Vibration impacts from operational activities, including the future road traffic noise, are predicted to satisfy relevant road traffic noise criteria for the nearest potentially affected residences on Collector Road and Bungendore Road.

You can find out more about noise and vibration in Section 8.4 of the EIS, including how it will be managed and mitigated.



Traffic and Transport

The Woodlawn Eco Precinct is serviced by a network of roads used for vehicles to access the site, including Braidwood Road, Bungendore Road and Collector Road. A new dedicated site entrance and intersection off Collector Road is proposed for the ARC.

A traffic and transport assessment has been carried out for the project to establish any impacts on the local road network.

DURING CONSTRUCTION

During construction, the project is expected to generate up to 70 inbound and 70 outbound vehicle movements per day (including 20 inbound and 20 outbound truck movements). The traffic impact assessment found that key intersections will continue to operate at either a good or satisfactory level throughout construction.

Bungendore Road is expected to operate with slightly slower speeds during the temporary construction period, before reverting to conditions similar to the current situation. During peak hour, there may be some additional delays on the hill climb travelling south from the Crisps Creek intermodal facility on some days of the construction period.



Scan to view the full EIS

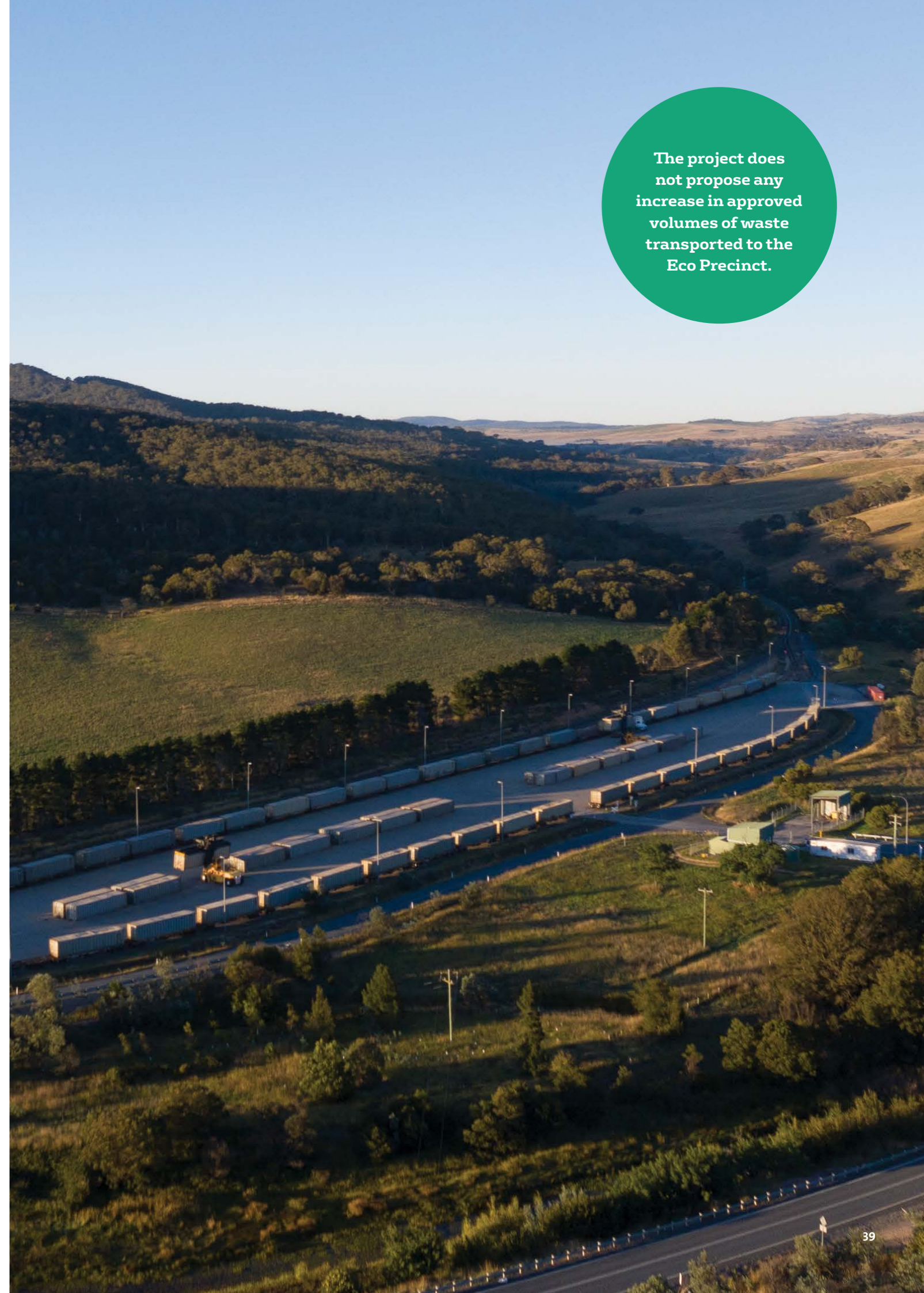
DURING OPERATION

Under existing approvals for the Woodlawn Eco Precinct, waste is approved to be received to the site by up to 120 trucks per day, six days a week, with the majority of truck movements happening Monday to Friday.

The ARC is anticipated to process up to 380,000 tonnes of waste per year, with the waste being sourced from the existing volumes that are transported to the Eco Precinct. The project does not propose any increase in approved volumes of waste transported to the Eco Precinct. There will be some minor additional traffic movements associated with the project during operation, such as employee access and delivery of materials, but with no significant impact on the local road network. Any heavy vehicles will use the established approved haulage routes.

You can read more about how traffic and transport will be managed for the project in section 8.5 of the EIS.

The project does not propose any increase in approved volumes of waste transported to the Eco Precinct.





Water



WATER USAGE

Water for the energy recovery process will be sourced from two locations: storage ponds on site that will collect rainwater that falls on the roof and hardstand paved areas of the ARC; and the existing licenced bore field that supplies water to the Eco Precinct, via pumps and storage tanks at the ARC. There is sufficient capacity within the bore field to meet the combined requirements of the ARC and the Eco Precinct, however, water from the storage ponds will be used as a first preference in the interests of sustainability. In times when the storage ponds are empty, bore water will be used.

GROUNDWATER

A groundwater impact assessment predicts no significant impacts from the project. The excavation of the feedstock bunker at the ARC is expected to intercept groundwater for a short duration but would otherwise not impact groundwater assets such as existing bores or groundwater dependent ecosystems. You can read more about the ground water impact assessment in section 8.6 of the EIS.

SURFACE WATER

The surface water management system for the project has been designed to integrate with Veolia's existing water management infrastructure at the Eco Precinct. The assessment found that the project would be able to meet all planned water management objectives. You can read more about surface water in section 8.7 of the EIS

WASTE WATER

The ARC is designed to be a zero-discharge facility, meaning that no wastewater will leave the site. The wastewater includes brine/wastewater from the demineralisation plant, wastewater from cleaning, and wastewater from the steam system, all of which will be treated in the onsite water management system and reused. Wastewater from employee sinks, showers and toilets facilities will be treated in an onsite effluent treatment plant and irrigated within the development footprint by a sub-surface drip irrigation system.

Contamination risks during construction will be managed through a construction environmental management plan.

Contamination

Land at the Woodlawn Eco Precinct has been highly disturbed since the 1970's by historical mining operations and waste management activities. A preliminary site investigation indicated there is existing contamination within the ARC development footprint, including high metal concentrations and residual ore from the previous mining operations. This was expected due to the historical use of the site. The investigation concluded that where the land is contaminated, it is suitable in its current state for its intended use with the ARC project, or will be suitable after remediation or development controls are in place.

The Woodlawn Eco Precinct will remain a zero discharge site. Contamination risks during construction will be managed through a Construction Environmental Management Plan, and the existing Landfill Closure and Rehabilitation Management Plan will be updated to reflect the proposed rehabilitation activities for the ARC project. Veolia will complete rehabilitation of areas impacted by former mining activities as required by its existing Woodlawn Eco Precinct planning consents. You can find out more about the contamination assessment in section 8.8 of the EIS.

Bushfire

The development footprint is partially mapped as bushfire prone (Vegetation Category 3 and buffer). The bushfire assessment identified that the project can be designed, constructed and operated in a manner that minimises risks associated with bushfire.

The building design and material selection aligns with the recommendations to withstand a bushfire attack (meaning potential exposure to ember attack, radiant heat and direct flame contact). You can read more about the bushfire assessment in section 8.9 of the EIS.

Biodiversity

The biodiversity impacts of the project have been minimised through the design of the development, including by building on already disturbed land and relocating the proposed ARC access road to avoid wetlands and native plants.

The project has been carefully located in areas that predominantly lack vegetation and which have significant historic soil disturbance. The development footprint is approximately 38.4 ha. Approximately 1.55 ha of native vegetation in the development footprint will be impacted and to compensate for unavoidable disturbance, biodiversity offsets will be provided through the NSW Biodiversity Conservation Fund.

Impacts on flora and fauna will be minimised through the implementation of management measures such as creating a healthy vegetation buffer between the wetland and woodland area and the access road, minimising dust, and controlling stormwater. You can read more about the biodiversity assessment in section 8.10 of the EIS.

Heritage

Assessments were carried out for both Aboriginal cultural heritage and historical archaeological heritage (which includes items of significance related to European occupation).

No Aboriginal objects, places or deposits were identified within the development footprint. It is considered that there would be no impacts to Aboriginal heritage. No potential historical archaeological impacts were identified as part of the assessment. The level of excavation and disturbance from past mining activities will have previously removed any remnants of relics prior to the proposed project. The assessment deemed the project would have low to no potential for damaging the site's archaeological value. Additional information about Aboriginal and historic heritage can be found in Sections 8.11 and 8.12 of the EIS.

Visual

Inspiration for the design of the ARC was drawn from its surrounding natural landscape. A number of considerations have been taken into account in order to maximise visual appeal and sustainability:

- ✔ The shape and colour have been matched with the topography of the existing ridge line in order to limit visual impact.
- ✔ Sustainable materials for building construction, with low levels of embodied energy, and recycled content have been utilised where possible.
- ✔ The building's orientation and form has been designed specifically to capitalise on the sun's location and prevailing winds for passive heating and cooling.

From a distance, views of the ARC are disrupted by the surrounding undulating landform or tree cover with the stack viewed against a backdrop of existing wind turbines. From the nearby Collector Road, the facility would be visible for 250 m, or less than 10 seconds from a moving vehicle. A plume from the ARC stack may be visible at certain times and may occur under weather conditions where water vapour condenses resulting in a visible white or light grey plume.

The visual impact assessment, in Appendix BB of the EIS, concluded that the ARC would not have a significant impact on the area's existing views.

Social

A social impact assessment was prepared to help identify potential impacts and opportunities arising from the project. An independent set of interviews, workshops, and an online survey were undertaken to identify values, vulnerabilities and strengths of the local community, as well as the identification of perceived impacts and benefits as a consequence of the project.

Assessment participants felt that the project brings several positive impacts (benefits) to the local and regional communities. Participants believed the project would bring continued employment opportunities during construction and operation and increased skilled career pathways.

Concerns raised by the community during the assessment included project-related emissions and health impacts, the existing odour levels, increased noise associated with additional truck movements during construction, and road safety risks for users of the Tarago-Bungendore Road.

You can read more about the social impact of the project in section 8.14 of the EIS.



Economic

The economic assessment found that the project will provide significant benefits to the regional economy during both the construction and operation phases, and is desirable and justified from an economic perspective. A summary of the economic benefits of the project is shown and you can read the full economic impact assessment in section 8.15 of the EIS.

Veolia proposes to continue working in partnership with the Goulburn Mulwaree Council and the local community to help maximise the projected economic regional benefits of the project.

Veolia has committed to:



Employing local people wherever possible



Using local producers as much as possible



Supporting regional community business groups, events and programs

During construction



300
direct jobs

- ✓ Engineers
- ✓ Builders
- ✓ Welders
- ✓ Boilermakers
- ✓ Scaffolders
- ✓ Electricians
- ✓ Plumbers
- ✓ Carpenters
- ✓ Project Managers
- ✓ Administrators



303
indirect jobs

- ✓ Manufacturing
- ✓ Technical Services
- ✓ Wholesalers
- ✓ Retail
- ✓ Food and Beverage
- ✓ Property and Real Estate
- ✓ Travel services
- ✓ Road transport
- ✓ Rental and hiring
- ✓ Education



70%
of construction workforce expected to come from the local region



\$227m
annual boost to business turnover in the region



\$45m
annual boost to household income in the region

During operation



40
direct jobs

- ✓ Managers
- ✓ Engineers
- ✓ Maintenance
- ✓ Administrators



80
indirect jobs

- ✓ Professional services
- ✓ Technical services
- ✓ Manufacturing
- ✓ Wholesale trade
- ✓ Retail trade
- ✓ Food and Beverage
- ✓ Property and Real Estate
- ✓ Road transport
- ✓ Healthcare



90%
of current Woodlawn workforce live locally



\$37m
annual boost to business turnover in the region



\$7m
annual boost to household income in the region

04 ASSESSMENT OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATIONS

Fire Safety and Hazards

A preliminary hazard assessment (PHA) and Fire Safety Study has been prepared to assess risks from the storage, handling and processing of waste at the ARC. The PHA concluded that in the unlikely event of a fire or explosion taking place, any impacts would be localised and contained on site, due both to the proposed design measures and the separation distances to the site boundary. The Fire Safety Study considered design and mitigation measures to address possible fire-related risks from the ARC. You can read the detail of the PHA in section 8.16 of the EIS.



04 ASSESSMENT OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATIONS

Solid Waste Management

There will be two main forms of solid waste from the ARC: Incinerator Bottom Ash (IBA) from the combustion process, which are inert materials including metals, and Air Pollution Control Residues (APCr) from the boiler and flue gas treatment system.

A Closer Look

96% of the outputs from the ARC will be either recovered or recycled:

- **HEAT**
76% of the waste will produce heat which creates steam that drives turbines to generate electricity.
- **GRIT, GLASS AND ASH**
18% inert materials in the form of grit (such as stones and ceramics etc), glass and ash. This is the IBA, IBA can be processed for eventual reuse in the construction industry, such as road base which is commonly practiced worldwide. It can also be used as an alternative landfill cover, or mine rehabilitation material, at the Eco Precinct.
- **METALS**
2% will be valuable metals that will be recovered from the IBA and recycled for various purposes.

The remaining 4% will be APCr which will be collected, treated and safely disposed of onsite. More information about waste management can be found in Section 8.17 of the EIS.



Next Steps

As part of the six week public exhibition period, the community has an opportunity to make a formal submission on the EIS to the NSW Department of Planning and Environment.

Following the public exhibition of the EIS, all submissions will be provided to Veolia. Veolia will prepare a response to submissions report, which will be published on the NSW Planning Portal.

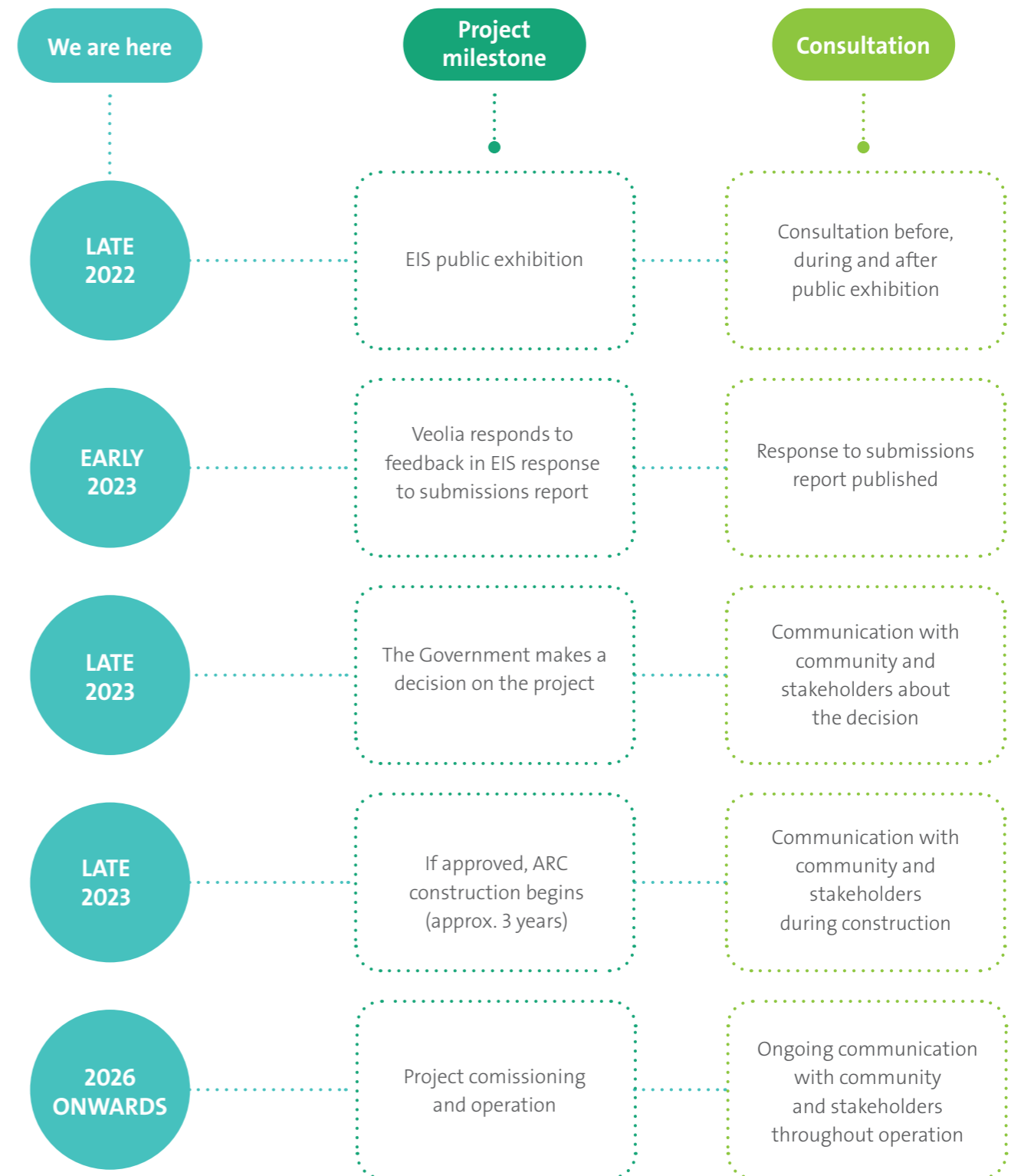
The NSW Department of Planning and Environment will review all of the material and prepare a report including its recommendations.

This report and other relevant material will be considered by the NSW Government, who will then make a decision about the proposal.

If the project is approved by the Government for development, construction of the Woodlawn Advanced Energy Recovery Centre is expected to commence in late 2023, subject to NSW Government and Commonwealth planning approvals, and would become operational around 2026.

There will be ongoing consultation and communication with the local community and stakeholders throughout the planning process, ahead of any construction and operation.

Key projects durations are as follows:



05 NEXT STEPS

Making a submission is an important part of the EIS process and we encourage everyone to have their say.

Tips for writing a submission

Anyone can make a submission about the project directly to the Department of Planning and Environment during the exhibition period, either online or by email, or mail.

Information is available on the DPE Major Projects website.



Scan to view the full EIS

Tips for writing a submission:

- ✓ Make sure your submission includes a clear statement on whether you support or object to the proposal, or parts of the proposal, and the reasons why.
- ✓ You can write as much or as little as you like, all submissions count, but they are best when they are in your own words.
- ✓ Make sure you review DPE's privacy statement and complete the disclosure requirements www.planning-portal.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/2022/Submissions%20policy%20July%202022.pdf.

To provide a valid submission you need to include:

- ✓ Your name and address
- ✓ Application Name: **Woodlawn Advanced Energy Recovery Centre**
- ✓ Application Number: **SSD-21184278**
- ✓ A brief statement on whether you support or object to the proposal
- ✓ The reasons why you support or object to the proposal

The Department of Planning and Environment must receive your submission before 11:59pm on Tuesday 6 December 2022.

How to submit



ONLINE

- Visit www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/projects/woodlawn-advanced-energy-recovery-centre.
- Click the 'Make a Submission' button. Create an account if you do not already have one.



MAIL

- To ensure the Department receives your submission, both the submission and mailing envelope must be addressed to the nominated contact person or team listed on the project page.

Sally Munk
Planning and Assessment
Department of Planning and Environment
Locked Bag 5022
Parramatta NSW 2124

- If you choose to send a paper-based submission and it's not addressed to the nominated contact person or team, the submission will not be received by the department and will be returned to the sender.
- For further details on how to make a hard copy submission contact the **DPE on 1300 305 695** or online at <https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/contact-us>.



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