

# QER Fuel for Thought

July 2020

QUEENSLAND ENERGY RESOURCES (QER) – GROUP

## More Fuel for Thought...



*Peter Zambelli  
General Manager*

Sad to see the end of the 'hardcopy' Gladstone Observer. We wish our colleagues who worked there all the best and we will miss the opportunity to connect directly with our stakeholders in Gladstone.

We have published Fuel for Thought in the Observer at least fortnightly for the last seven years. Rather than discontinuing column, we thought we'd take the opportunity to make a few changes to broaden its audience and its appeal.

Fuel for Thought will now be published online around the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month. We'll continue to keep it pretty light, but give you a feel for how we are progressing in our quest to create a new, local source of high quality transport fuel for Australia's future.

If you have any questions, ideas or suggestions, please feel free to contact me directly at [pzambelli@qer.com.au](mailto:pzambelli@qer.com.au) or Nigel at [nclements@qer.com.au](mailto:nclements@qer.com.au).

QUEENSLAND ENERGY RESOURCES - GLADSTONE

## A dry subject that's really interesting...



*Nigel Clements  
Gladstone Site  
Superintendent*

We're pretty excited out here at the moment running some R&D trials looking at a more cost effective and lower emissions ore drying technology.

Freshly mined rock is currently dried for processing in large scale gas dryers. However QER's recent work has shown that the shale can be dried in a gentle stream of natural air in less than a day.

This has the potential to significantly reduce energy use and emissions. All of our team out here have been involved in setting up a small pilot plant or as one person described it: the most high tech 44 gallon drum ever. Air is blown through the shale while we continuously measure the weight of shale, temperature, relative humidity and pressure at selected points in the process.

It's still early days, but the results so far are looking very promising for application at commercial scale, resulting in a significant reduction in the amount of energy used and emissions generated. It's amazing how sometime the simplest ways are the best ways!



*The QER team at the commissioning of the air drying pilot plant (L-R) Colin Johnson, Nigel Clements, Matt Hall (EQIP Work experience student), Rob Brodie, Jannie Grove (QER Technical Director); and Paul Miller (Site Team Leader).*

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[Previous editions of QER's Fuel For Thought Column](#)

## QER's Visitor Centre

375 Landing Road Yarwun

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At other times by appointment 0448 860656