What's in the Planning Application?

BROMELTON ENERGY & RESOURCE CENTRE
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The Planning Application:

- Seeks development approval from the Office of the Coordinator-General for a Material Change of Use for Special Industry in the Bromelton SDA, pursuant to the State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971.
- Outlines the proposed Bromelton Energy and Resource Centre (BERC), including the facility design, operations and intended outcomes.
- Includes technical studies and specialist assessments examining potential impacts on human health, air quality, traffic, noise, amenity and the environment.
- Explains the measures proposed to avoid, minimise, manage and monitor potential impacts and risks.

This guide is a summary of the key community feedback we have heard since planning started in 2023 and the responses provided through the technical assessments. It also guides you to where you can read more about these topics in the specialist technical reports. You can access the reports using the links in the table below or visiting www.cleanaway.com.au/berc

Air quality

Key community feedback	Response from the Specialist Technical Assessment	More information
Feedback about pollutants in the air (like dioxins, furans, and heavy metals) and cumulative air quality impacts.	The BERC is designed with an air pollution control system to ensure air emissions generated remain within the allowable environmental standards. This design supports the protection of human health and the natural environment. The Air Quality Assessment uses modelling and local environmental data to assess how emissions would disperse and what concentrations may occur in surrounding areas. The assessment found that the BERC's contribution to air pollutant levels would be very small, with overall air quality remaining within relevant health-based guidelines. Emissions will be continuously monitored, with monitoring data proposed to be published on a publicly accessible website.	Air Quality Assessment

Odour impacts

Key community feedback	Response from the Specialist Technical Assessment	More information
Feedback about odour impacts on the local community.	Waste will arrive at the BERC in enclosed trucks and will be handled and stored within enclosed buildings, with waste stored only in the waste bunker. The BERC is designed to maintain negative air pressure in waste handling areas, drawing air into the combustion process where odorous compounds are destroyed, preventing odours from escaping into the surrounding environment.	Air Quality Assessment

Noise impacts

Key community feedback	Response from the Specialist Technical Assessment	More information
Feedback about noise from truck movements and onsite operations.	Noise impacts were assessed at the nearest noise sensitive locations to the BERC, including both residential and industrial premises. The assessment concluded that noise levels from both the operation and construction of the BERC are predicted to comply with all relevant noise regulations at nearby sensitive receptors.	Noise and Vibration Technical Report

Human health

Key community feedback	Response from the Specialist Technical Assessment	More information
Feedback about potential health impacts to people, animals, and agricultural farming areas.	Independent health experts assessed whether emissions from the BERC could affect the health of people living nearby. The assessment considered a range of potential exposure pathways, including breathing air emissions, consuming home-grown fruit and vegetables, eggs, meat and milk and using rainwater tanks. The Human Health Risk Assessment was undertaken in accordance with Australian health risk assessment guidance and used detailed air quality modelling to assess both short-term and long-term exposure scenarios. The assessment concluded that emissions from the BERC are predicted to comply with relevant health-based guidelines and are not expected to result in adverse impacts on human health, drinking water quality, home-grown produce or rainwater tanks.	Human Health Risk Assessment

Water, groundwater and stormwater

Key community feedback	Response from the Specialist Technical Assessment	More information
Feedback about water use, water contamination and impacts on local catchments and waterways.	The BERC is designed as a closed-loop system, with no discharge of process wastewater during normal operations. Water will be supplied from the local water network and rainwater collected from building roofs will be captured and reused on site to reduce overall water demand. Connection to a recycled water network is also being explored. Stormwater from external areas will be managed in accordance with Best Practice Environmental Management Guidelines.	Engineering (Infrastructure) Report Stormwater Management Plan and Flood Risk Assessment

Traffic impacts

Key community feedback	Response from the Specialist Technical Assessment	More information
Feedback about additional truck movements and their impact on traffic flow, including trucks travelling past schools, the town centre and other sensitive community locations.	In accordance with Queensland Department of Transport and Main Roads requirements, the Traffic Impact Assessment considered Beaudesert Boonah Road and Beaudesert Bypass Road. The assessment found that, with upgrades to the Beaudesert Bypass Road / Mount Lindesay Highway / Brisbane Street / Helen Street signalised intersection, all assessed intersections are expected to operate within acceptable limits. The road link assessment similarly concluded that all assessed road links are expected to operate within acceptable limits.	Traffic Impact Assessment

Operational safety and incident response

Key community feedback	Response from the Specialist Technical Assessment	More information
Feedback about hazardous materials in the waste received, incidents and emergency responses and shut downs.	Prohibited waste materials will not be accepted and procedures will be in place to identify, remove and appropriately manage any unsuitable loads before processing. While some non-conforming waste may be inadvertently received, the selected technology is designed to safely manage these variations in residual waste composition. The facility will also incorporate automated monitoring and control systems, with shutdown procedures implemented if key operating conditions cannot be maintained. This ensures the facility operates safely and in accordance with emissions and environmental performance requirements.	Technical Process Description Hazards and Risk Assessment Waste Feedstock Report

Waste to the facility

Key community feedback	Response from the Specialist Technical Assessment	More information
Feedback about waste types processed in the facility, how recyclables are separated, where waste comes from and how it is transported.	The BERC will process 760,000 tonnes per annum of residual municipal solid waste (red bin waste) and residual commercial waste that would otherwise be sent to landfill. Waste will be sourced from approved suppliers within South East Queensland, with modelling based on a catchment generally located within a 90-minute drive of the facility. Feedstock contracts and a Waste Acceptance Protocol will ensure that only residual waste is accepted. All incoming waste will undergo inspection, with additional controls including supplier pre-qualification, random load inspections, waste audits and radiation detection. Waste will be delivered by road, not rail.	Waste Feedstock Report

Waste from the facility

Key community feedback	Response from the Specialist Technical Assessment	More information
Feedback about the management, safety and long-term use of residual materials produced by the BERC, particularly Incinerator Bottom Ash Aggregate (IBAA) and Air Pollution Control Residue (APCr).	Residual materials produced by the BERC will be managed in accordance with regulatory requirements and industry best practice. Incinerator Bottom Ash (IBA) will be processed to recover metals for recycling, with the remaining material intended to be used as a construction aggregate after appropriate testing confirms it is suitable for reuse. Air Pollution Control Residue (APCr) will be collected, stabilised to immobilise contaminants and disposed of at a licensed landfill.	Resource and Waste Management Technical Report

Visual impact, landscaping and design

Key community feedback	Response from the Specialist Technical Assessment	More information
Feedback about the size, appearance and visibility of the facility and stack and that it could change the visual character of the local landscape and rural views.	The BERC has been designed to respond to the Bromelton landscape through careful building placement, architectural treatments and extensive landscaping to reduce visual impacts and integrate with its surroundings. The visual impact assessment concluded that, while the facility will be visible from some locations, it is consistent with the planned industrial character of the Bromelton State Development Area.	Landscape Character and Visual Impact Assessment Architecture and Landscape Design Strategy Report