

A large blue and white Volvo truck is parked in front of a building. The truck has "CLEANAWAY" and "City of Casey" logos on its side. Text on the side of the truck reads: "This truck is powered by used cooking oil".

Frequently Asked Questions | October 2025

Lucas Heights Resource Recovery Park

Cleanaway Lucas Heights Resource Recovery Park is a drop-off and disposal facility that accepts putrescible or red bin waste, pre-sorted paper, cardboard, steel, scrap metals, limited sump oil and vehicle batteries. It also features the Lucas Heights Organic Resource Recovery Facility, which processes organic materials for compost recycling.

Proposed Western Extension Project

Cleanaway is looking to extend its Lucas Heights Resource Recovery Park landfill to address the critical need for additional waste capacity in the Sydney basin. As the region's only putrescible landfill site, this extension is vital for managing New South Wales impending landfill shortage.

According to the NSW Government's Waste and Sustainable Materials Strategy 2041 [Waste and Sustainable Materials Strategy](#) | [EPA](#) available landfills are expected to reach capacity by 2030. Project details are available on the [NSW Major Projects Portal](#). [NSW Major Projects Portal](#).

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Why are we extending the Lucas Heights landfill?

The Western Extension Project addresses the projected shortfall of landfill space in NSW, aligning with the NSW Waste Strategy 2041, which forecasts that Greater Sydney will require additional putrescible landfill capacity by 2030.

Q: When will Lucas Heights Resource Recovery Park reach capacity?

Cleanaway's Lucas Heights landfill is expected to reach capacity by 2030, leading to the proposed Western Extension Project at Lucas Heights Resource Recovery Park. Once approved, construction will start in 2028, with operations beginning in 2031, allowing Cleanaway to continue processing up to 970,000 tonnes of Sydney's red bin waste annually until at least 2046.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: How will Cleanaway manage any impacts from the Western Extension project?

Any project impacts will be identified during the preparation of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), with proposed mitigation strategies and management plans submitted as part of this process. The Environmental Impact Statement is anticipated to be publicly exhibited in early 2026. Traffic is expected to remain within currently approved limits, with access via Little Forest Road off New Illawarra Road remaining unchanged.

Q: How long will the Western Extension Project take to complete?

The Western Extension Project will take approximately three years to prepare and construct, with ongoing consultation between Cleanaway, Sutherland Shire Council and relevant government agencies on the Environmental Impact Statement.

Q: Will there be an increase in annual volume to the site?

No, the Western Extension Project will not affect the site's annual volume; it will simply extend the duration of the current annual intake capacity.

Q: How will Cleanaway engage with the local community to inform them of the exhibition?

We have contacted key stakeholders including Sutherland Shire Council, State Government agencies and near neighbours about the Western Extension Project; you can visit our project website at [Lucas Heights Resource Recovery Park | Cleanaway](#) that will be updated as we progress through the process.

Prior to final approval, we will inform the public through mail, email, social media, media releases and our website, inviting submissions. A Community Reference Group is already convened to discuss details. Further Community briefings will also be offered for those seeking more information.

Q: What is a Voluntary Planning Agreement and will how will Cleanaway manage it?

A Voluntary Planning Agreement (VPA) is a contract between a developer and a planning authority, where the developer agrees to provide public benefits like financial contributions or infrastructure improvements to offset the development's impact. Cleanaway is working with Sutherland Shire Council to establish a Voluntary Planning Agreement for the Western Extension Project.

Q: What are Cleanaway's Priorities?

Cleanaway prioritises compliance with regulatory and best practice standards to ensure safety and environmental protection across its facilities. Our procedures are grounded in a thorough understanding of regulations, industry standards, risk mitigation, and continuous improvement.

Guided by the principle "Making a Sustainable Future Possible Together" we focus on envisioning the future and taking immediate action to benefit our employees, community, environment, and customers. Committed to proactive foresight, decisive action, and responsible accountability, we uphold strong corporate governance to drive sustainable initiatives.

Get Involved

We will continue to keep the community informed about the project. Transparent and open communication with the community remains our priority. Your input and involvement are important as we develop a resource recovery solution that benefits both the community and the environment.

Community feedback is important to us; we will host an information sessions and other consultation opportunities during 2025.

* Future dates provided in this document are indicative only and subject to modification.



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