



Dear neighbour,

UPDATE ON PROPOSED CASINO BIOHUB PROJECT

Below is an update on the progress of the project, which was first introduced in our communication letter in March 2023. Please remember this is not the incinerator project.

About the project

To recap, below is key information for anyone who might not have seen our initial letter:

- The Casino Biohub will be built at the Casino Food Co-op's existing livestock processing facility and tannery on Summerland Way. The Casino Food Co-op is the town's largest employer and is a member-based Co-operative, located at the outskirts of town heading to Kyogle.
- The Casino Biohub will transform existing organic wastewater from the Co-op into renewable energy, contributing to sustainability and resource efficiency.
- The project is a collaboration between the Casino Food Co-op and Helmont Energy, a wholly owned subsidiary of LMS Energy, which is Australia's leading biogas company.
- The project involves the capture of biogas generated by the natural breakdown of the organic matter in the Co-op's wastewater and using this renewable energy source to provide the site's electricity in place of current fossil fuel use.
- The facility is set to generate local employment opportunities, support agricultural practices, and enhance environmental wellbeing.
- Renewable energy will be used by the Co-op to reduce its carbon footprint, thereby increasing self-resilience and reducing reliance on external energy sources.

Project update

After engaging with community members, and other interested stakeholders, we have completed a comprehensive Social Impact Assessment Scoping Report. This report provides positive aspects and potential challenges in the early stages of the project and outlines the proactive strategies to address them.

We are grateful to those who provided feedback after our initial communication. Your insights, both in support and in raising important concerns, are appreciated. Many of the suggestions and queries raised have been acted upon and integrated into the project's ongoing development.

The SSD Scoping Report has now been submitted to Department of Planning and Environment and is available on the NSW Government Major Projects website (<https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/projects/casino-biohub-bioenergy-facility>).

The NSW Government will use the SSD Scoping Report to determine its assessment requirements to guide our preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to support the project's assessment under Part 4, Division 4.7 of the NSW Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (EP&A Act).

If you would like more details regarding the project, a dedicated webpage outlining current and proposed operations, processes and the approval pathway can be found at www.helmontenergy.com.

Frequently asked questions

To help address any questions, we have compiled a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) sheet that provides clear and concise answers to common enquiries. This FAQ sheet is attached to this letter and is also available at www.helmontenergy.com.

Feedback requested

Your input continues to be of utmost importance as we move forward with this project. We invite you to stay engaged and share your thoughts as we further develop our project through the next application stages. Your participation ensures the Casino Biohub Project remains a collaborative effort that benefits the entire community.

We encourage you to share your insights through our online survey, which you can access by **scanning the QR code below with the camera on your mobile phone.**



Please do not hesitate to contact Jamie Seaton from Element Environment at community@elementenvironment.com.au, if you wish to remain updated on the project's progress, or have any further questions.

Thank you for your interest, support, and invaluable feedback.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Seaton'.

Dr Jamie Seaton
Principal Consultant
Element Environment