

Investigating the prospects for a Social Licence for Bioenergy in the Northern Rivers – The Process so far



BEYOND 2016 – BEST PRACTICE PRINCIPLES: Communities will be consulted about actual projects and site specific impacts. Bioenergy projects should seek to align with community values. Local concerns are paramount and engagement should include broader views and opinions. Bioenergy proponents should seek ongoing consent and agreement from their stakeholders. Bioenergy proponents will need to engage with possible dissent constructively.

Bioenergy technologies (biogas) introduced at the 2012 North Coast Energy Forum.

Sustain Energy commissioned a Bioenergy Scoping Study - an audit of potentially available biomass, in particular bio-waste, in the region.

24 Key stakeholders from industry and environmental groups are interviewed as to their perceived benefits and concerns about bioenergy.

An infographic explaining the pros and cons of bioenergy technologies & feedstocks is developed and widely distributed via markets, Sustainable House Day Expo 2015, the Nimbin Show, websites and social media.

4 workshops held in Nimbin, Casino, Lismore and Murwillumbah – 61 people explored the pros and cons and indicated their level or support for, and concerns about bioenergy.

The people interviewed in October 2015 were surveyed as to their views on the March Report.

2012

April 2013

Dec 2013

Nov 2014

April 2015

July 2015

March 2016

October 2015

April 2016



Sustain Energy holds a Bioenergy Forum at Byron Bay, bringing together community members and industry stakeholders to discuss the potential of bioenergy in the region.

A masterclass exploring what would be involved in obtaining a social licence for bioenergy in the Northern Rivers is held at the North Coast Energy Forum.

On-line survey is developed and publicly distributed to gauge perceived benefits and concerns about bioenergy. 208 responses. Clear that people needed more info.

Workshop participants were surveyed before and after the workshops to see if their level of support had varied and if so, why?

Report prepared on the findings of the Social Licence surveys & workshops and widely distributed.