



TW CM ref: 22/9741

11/2/2022

Renewables, Climate and Future Industries Tasmania
GPO Box 147
Hobart Tasmania 7001

To whom it may concern,

Bioenergy Vision for Tasmania

Thank you for the opportunity to review the Draft Bioenergy Vision for Tasmania. TasWater enjoys engaging with the Renewables Climate and Future Industries Tasmania on a number of fronts and again it is appreciated that the Tasmanian Government has given various stakeholders the opportunity to comment on, and shape the final Bioenergy Vision.

TasWater has reviewed the Draft Bioenergy Vision for Tasmania and would like to provide the following responses to the questions posed in the request for feedback:

1. What changes, if any, would you suggest to the draft Bioenergy Vision?

TasWater considers that focus is required in the area of embedded energy as a renewable resource for the Tasmanian economy, community, and environment.

2. What are the key roles for the Tasmanian government to support bioenergy?

To play a coordination role for bioenergy across the state. The Tasmanian Organic Strategy will be helpful with identifying where the organic waste is located and the volumes. The government could also potentially provide financial support for the implementation of projects, which would ultimately help with the current target of 200% renewable electricity and net zero by 2030.

3. What are the key roles for households, industry, and other levels of government to support bioenergy?

Bioenergy is a potential solution to try and reach net zero but also implement a circular economy. It has the potential to be a longer-term solution than land application of TasWater's Sewerage Treatment Plant biosolid wastes.

4. What do you think could be done to appropriately accelerate the uptake of bioenergy in Tasmania?

The Government could provide incentives and reduce uncertainty for capital expenditure in addition to the waste levy. This may support investment options considered at the time of infrastructure upgrade to become more feasible within regulated businesses, where the economic regulator considers that only the prudent and efficient investment options should be carried forward.

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5. What are the key opportunities for bioenergy in Tasmania? What can be done to realise these opportunities?

There is an opportunity to provide feedstock from TasWater Sewerage Treatment Plants to bioenergy projects, noting proximity will be a key factor and that other opportunities for organic waste processing may compete for the resource. Contaminated Biosolids may be a potential bioenergy resource provided that the process is suitable for processing the contaminants, as they may not have another viable application.

6. What are the key challenges for bioenergy in Tasmania? What solutions do you see for these challenges?

The key challenges from TasWater's perspective are:

- scale of work required to implement the vision
- an absence of co-location of industries
- cost of implementation and uncertainties with rapidly evolving technologies

Further to the above feedback, TasWater would like to better understand bioenergy water and wastewater needs across the state and how these may impact on TasWater's infrastructure and would be interested in receiving further information in this regard.

If you have any other questions, please contact [REDACTED]

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "M Derbyshire".

Matthew Derbyshire
General Manager Asset Management Services
TasWater