

## Energy (Renewable Transformation and Jobs) Bill 2023

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**Submitted by:** Cleanaway  
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Committee Secretary  
Transport and Resources Committee  
Parliament House  
George Street  
Brisbane Qld 4000  
By email: [trc@parliament.qld.gov.au](mailto:trc@parliament.qld.gov.au)

Dear Committee Secretary

**RE: Energy (Renewable Transformation and Jobs) Bill 2023**

Cleanaway Waste Management Ltd is Australia's leading waste management company, with a national network of unique collection, processing, recycling, treatment, and landfill assets. Cleanaway operates from more than 350 locations and employs more than 7,500 people.

Our philosophy is that all waste is a resource and we aim to incorporate recovery, recycling, and reuse throughout our operations and those of our clients. Our mission is making a sustainable future possible together for all our stakeholders.

Australia's waste industry directly and indirectly employs more than 50,000 Australians and provides essential services to the community.

Cleanaway is proposing to build an Energy from Waste (EfW) facility in Bromelton, Queensland. Known as the Bromelton Energy and Resource Centre (BERC), it will use internationally proven technology to convert waste to energy. Such technology has been successfully used in cities across Europe, North America, Japan and many other countries, and has continually improved over decades.

The BERC will comply with the Queensland Government EfW Policy, Guideline and any other applicable legislation.

The proposed site is a 62-hectare parcel of land within the Bromelton State Development Area (SDA). This location is part of a Special Industry Precinct for difficult to locate industry. Cleanaway will be seeking approval for this project and expects to be consulting with the community and key stakeholders about the proposal later in 2023.

Cleanaway welcomes the release of the ShapingSEQ (South East Queensland Regional Plan) 2023 Update by new Premier of Queensland The Honourable Dr Steven Miles on 15 December 2023.

ShapingSEQ 2023 Update highlights industrial land for Recycling Enterprise Precincts (REPs), noting:

*“Some of SEQs industrial areas will contribute to specific priorities for the region such as REPs. The development and operation of a REP provides opportunities for sustainable economic development based on the use and reuse of materials that would otherwise be discarded in landfill. The co-location of complementary industry activities can develop places that contribute to a circular economy. The identification of likely locations for REPs is underpinned by an examination of economic, social, environmental and amenity impact and the efficiency of land and infrastructure use. The objectives of the location of these precincts focus on economic development opportunities, the co-location of industries, maximising sustainability outcomes, minimising environmental impacts, creating quality industrial places and developing quality infrastructure.”*

Specifically, ShapingSEQ identifies Bromelton and Precinct purposes to include *“Energy from waste operations that use any residual waste from processes inside the precinct as well as raw waste from outside the precinct.”*

### **Energy (Renewable Transformation and Jobs) Bill 2023**

Cleanaway commends the Queensland Government on the development of the Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan (QEJP) and its commitment to 50% renewable energy by 2030, 70% by 2032 and 80% by 2035 and the phase out of publicly owned coal-fired power generation by 2035.

Through its legislation – the *Energy (Renewable Transformation and Jobs) Bill 2023* – the Government is legislating the renewable energy targets, as well as public ownership targets and other pillars for delivery of QEJP’s renewable energy transition.

Cleanaway recommends the Bill adopt definition of “renewable energy source” from the Commonwealth *Renewable Energy (Electricity) Act*.

#### Definition of renewable energy source

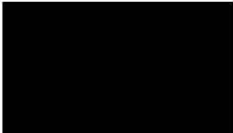
The Queensland Government’s Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy acknowledged that: *“The deployment of certain types of energy recovery technology may also contribute to achieving the goal of powering Queensland with 50 per cent renewable energy by 2030.”*

Furthermore, the Government’s Energy from Waste Guidelines (2021) stated on page 3 that:

*“Under the Commonwealth Renewable Energy (Electricity) Act 2000, energy derived from organic wastes may be regarded as renewable energy. This includes energy derived from wood waste, agricultural waste, food and food processing waste, biomass-based components of municipal waste, landfill gas, sewage gas, and biomass-based components of sewage. This type of energy is also referred to as ‘bioenergy’. To the extent that electricity generated from waste meets this definition, it will contribute to the Queensland Government’s commitment to reach 50 per cent renewable electricity generation by 2030. Energy derived from waste products made from fossil fuels (e.g. traditional plastics) does not count as renewable energy or bioenergy and would not contribute to the renewable energy target.”*

Cleanaway urges the Committee to recommend the Bill be amended so as to adopt the Commonwealth legislation definition – Section 17 of the *Renewable Energy (Electricity) Act 2000* – and to be consistent with the Queensland Government’s EfW Guidelines and to provide maximum cohesion between State and Federal Government laws, policies and programs.

Yours sincerely



**Mark Biddulph**  
Head of Corporate Affairs