

EARTHPOWER



Earthpower

Being more sustainable Makes good business sense

Business sustainability

The mission of EarthPower (www.earthpower.com.au) is to enable waste producers to assist other businesses to become more environmentally sustainable. They do this by responding to the increasing regulatory and public pressure on them by providing waste disposal methods that provide reductions in greenhouse gas as compared to other commonly used disposal techniques.

EarthPower recognises that being more sustainable itself makes good business sense and supports the purpose of the business. Over the last two years significant effort has been placed on measuring inputs and

outputs, measuring process capability, identifying process bottlenecks, identifying areas of wastefulness and quantifying the cost of these wastes. This has led to the identification and prioritisation of business improvement projects.

Sustainability initiatives currently underway at EarthPower are aimed at potable water conservation, conversion to recycled water, electricity audits, waste to landfill reduction, energy savings, improving process efficiencies and increasing plant capacity.

EarthPower is actively working with the Streamline Business Program on Waste Exchange, AquaNet on recycled water and

DECCW's Energy Advantage program on energy efficiency.

Outcomes

EarthPower is committed to environmental best practice in the processing of organic food wastes in a sustainable and commercially viable manner to produce green electricity and fertiliser.

Over the last two years savings have been made around electricity, water, gas, trade waste and general waste bills. The business improvement projects planned for the next couple of years are anticipated to yield significant results.

Participating in the Streamline Business Program has provided an opportunity to focus on sustainability. Meeting people from other businesses has helped with exchanging information and ideas.

As a direct result of the Waste Exchange Program, Earthpower and AB Mauri started conversations that led to an ongoing mutually agreeable waste exchange arrangement. Participating in Waste Exchange has also led to an increase in the quantity of food biomass waste received at EarthPower from businesses in the local area and also let more people know about options available for food biomass waste disposal.



“Being more sustainable itself makes good business sense and supports the purpose of the business.”

David Clark, General Manager

Lessons learned

David Clark has learned about what other businesses are doing in order to make their businesses more sustainable. The exchange of information and ideas has been an invaluable component of the Program.

Future actions

EarthPower and AB Mauri are currently exploring ongoing industrial symbiosis opportunities between their two facilities.

Business background

EarthPower is a unique food biomass waste-to-energy facility designed and licensed to accept solid and liquid biomass from municipal, commercial and industrial sectors in the Sydney region. A medium-sized company located in Camellia, EarthPower Technologies employs 15 people. The EarthPower facility opened in 2003 after an investment of \$35million.

In 2007 EarthPower was sold to Transpacific Industries and Veolia Environmental Services, two of Australia’s leading waste management companies.