

MEAT INDUSTRY ENVIRONMENT NETWORK 2017-2019

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Project Description

The primary target for the Meat Industry Environment Network is industry personnel. The Environment Network seeks to provide a forum for industry personnel to give input into their priority issues, challenges and potential projects for research and development. It also provides a forum for industry discussion, input and feedback into R&D projects in progress and for extension services for AMPC research and development activities to plant environment personnel to encourage uptake of research outcomes.

Other stakeholders participate in the network meetings as appropriate, including broader industry personnel, researchers, regulators, trainers and industry consultants.

The Network promotes engagement with environment managers from processing establishments and other stakeholders to ensure that all parties are meeting new regulatory requirements and that new information is disseminated.

The network also provides a means of showcasing new technologies and initiatives being undertaken by meat processing plants and other industries such as energy efficiency, water harvesting and reuse, solid waste management, and greenhouse gas emissions management.

Project Outcome

A total of eleven meetings were run, with the Perth meeting cancelled due to lack of registrations.

Over fifteen AMPC R&D projects were presented over the course of this project. Other AMPC presentations included the AMPC Strategic Plan and funding opportunities.



MINTRAC presented on areas such as new training developments, available resources, the environment film series and training available for environment personnel. Other presenters included EPA representatives, MLA and scholarship students.

There were two site visits:

- to the solar farm project at Hardwick Processors in Kyneton. The site visit showed the potential power savings solar energy can provide for meat processors and the participants were very interested in the project's development
- the Carlton Brewery water treatment plant which highlighted the differences in scale compared to most abattoirs, however the basic principles are the same and the participants enjoyed having a look around and learning how the plant worked.

Two short films were also completed:

- the first took place at Teys' feedlot in Condamine on 14th December ~~2014~~²⁰¹⁸. The film showcased the energy savings Teys' are making through using solar to power up to 50% of the plant's electricity needs.
- filming of the cogeneration project at Teys in Naracoorte occurred in the first week of June 2019.

Benefit for Industry

The Environment Network meetings have provided a valuable means of informing meat processing personnel of new and emerging research and development projects, recently produced tools and resources, available funding and new and emerging regulatory requirements.

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