

# Queensland Biofutures Industry Forum Action Plan – next steps

Outcome/output	Forum suggestions - summary	Government response	Actions	Lead agency	Next steps
<b>Re-examine international policy settings</b>	Government policies, particularly around waste, carbon intensity, procurement and fuel/air quality standards need to be further reviewed and enhanced to ensure they meet industry needs and are globally competitive to attract investment and projects to Queensland. Consideration should also be given to policies for bioproducts and biochemicals. Government should lead by example and have procurement policies in place to use biofuels and bioproducts, to support industry and encourage social licence.	The Queensland Government is committed to developing policies that support the growth of the biofutures industry, both outlined in the Queensland Biofutures 10-Year Roadmap and Action Plan and demonstrated with the Biofuels Mandate effective 1 January 2017. The Queensland Government will review its existing policies relevant to the biofutures industry, including waste, procurement and investment attraction, to ensure they are globally competitive and meet industry needs.	The Queensland Government will conduct an international audit of existing/successful policies relevant to the biofutures industry, including finance options and investment attraction. DSD will work across government and investigate global policies (e.g. California's low carbon fuel standard, Canada's zero landfill policies, and Iowa's renewable chemical production tax credit program) that may be applied or adapted to enhance Queensland's current policies and grow the biofutures industry. A Queensland Government bioproduct procurement policy is also being investigated to increase consumption and improve the market for new investors, as a key action under the Roadmap.	DSD Supporting Agencies: DPC / DEWS / DSITI / DEHP	Biofutures Queensland has established an interdepartmental policy working group with the DPC, DEWS, DEHP, and DSITI to research and review global policies and their relevance to Queensland, and explore areas where governments procure and use biofuels/bioproducts. Biofutures Queensland will engage industry groups and work with the private sector to encourage other industries to use biofuels and bioproducts, and will explore international 'biopreferred programs' (e.g. USDA). Biofutures Queensland to work with DEHP to explore waste policy options to incentivise waste as a cost-competitive feedstock.
<b>Streamline regulatory requirements</b>	The government needs to ensure its regulatory and planning requirements are streamlined and are not conflicting, e.g. environmental and water regulations.	The Queensland Government, through DSD and DILGP, is reviewing its regulatory requirements to ensure approval processes are streamlined to enable biofutures project development. This is a priority and key action under the Queensland Government's 10-Year Biofutures Roadmap and Action Plan.	The Queensland Government will continue its focus on its regulatory review and investigation into current policies to progress the streamlining of its regulatory and planning requirements.	DSD Supporting Agencies: DILGP / DEHP / DNRM / DEWS	DSD and DILGP will progress work on the regulatory review as a priority, in consultation with relevant agencies across government.
<b>Assist access to cost-competitive feedstock supplies</b>	Ensure feedstocks are cost-competitive and available in adequate supplies to meet current and future demand.	Under the Queensland Government's 10-Year Biofutures Roadmap and Action Plan, DSITI is collating data sets and mapping feedstocks that are available across Queensland. The government has accelerated the delivery of the Australian Biomass for Bioenergy Assessment (ABBA) project with data now publicly available on sugar and forestry feedstocks. The Queensland Government will continue to work with researchers and industry to improve the availability of feedstocks and their cost-competitiveness.	The Queensland Government will continue to engage and support feedstock producers and suppliers to ensure data on Queensland feedstock supplies is current and meets industry needs. The government will also consider policies that incentivise new and innovative feedstocks and the use of current waste streams, such as municipal solid waste (MSW), organics and tyres.	DSD Supporting Agencies: DSITI / DEHP / DAF	Biofutures Queensland will continue to work with DSITI and DAF to further accelerate the ABBA project and engage industry to better understand their data needs. Biofutures Queensland to investigate the inclusion of tyres and other wastes in the ABBA project. Biofutures Queensland to consult Queensland University of Technology (QUT) to gain a greater understanding of their modelling around 'centres of economic' feedstock supply and explore its broader economic application for industry. Biofutures Queensland to work with DEHP to explore waste policy options to incentivise waste as a cost-competitive feedstock - see internationally competitive policy.
<b>Celebrate Queensland success stories and build consumer commitment</b>	Celebrate Queensland success stories and build social licence. Engage the local community and stakeholders to ensure their ongoing support and acceptance on the use of biofuels and bioproducts. Raise consumer awareness and educate the community on the economic, environmental and social benefits of the biofutures industry.	The Queensland Government is committed to celebrating Queensland's success stories and will work with industry to take these stories to the world. To help build social licence, the Queensland Government is running a consumer awareness campaign for E10-OK, to help educate consumers and encourage drivers to use ethanol in their vehicles. Other campaigns and education programs on the use/benefits of bioproducts will be considered.	The Queensland Government, as part of the globally competitive policy initiative, will explore international 'biopreferred programs' (e.g. USDA) that may be suitable for the local market. DSD will work across government to ensure there is cohesion across all communications and consistency in messaging.	DSD	Biofutures Queensland to meet with DEWS to discuss its success of the E10-OK campaign and identify opportunities for biofutures more broadly - i.e. explore the possibility of extending or expanding the campaign to promote the use of other bioproducts. DSD through its interdepartmental communications working group, will engage all relevant agencies and consult consumer groups to develop a targeted communications plan for the biofutures industry. Biofutures Queensland as part of the globally competitive policy action (above), will explore international 'biopreferred programs' (e.g. USDA) for Queensland.
<b>Ensure ongoing funding and finance</b>	Ensure public and private financial support is available to support Queensland's biofutures industry and projects in Queensland. Ongoing government support and incentives are crucial to the development of the biofutures industry, including support to develop business cases to secure finance/capital and get projects off the ground, i.e. project facilitation.	The Queensland Government will continue to engage federal and local governments and private financiers to investigate financial models/solutions and investment opportunities for Queensland's biofutures industry. To kick-start and support the development of the biofutures industry, the government announced three funding programs: the Biofutures Industry Development Fund; Biofutures Commercialisation Program; and Biofutures Acceleration Program. Biofutures Queensland has also been established to provide a one-stop-shop for advice, assistance and project facilitation support. Services are tailored to meet client needs and include: streamlined access to government services and support programs; contacts and introductions; advice on approval processes; resource availability; site selection; workforce solutions; and access to economic data and business tools. The Queensland Government will also, wherever possible, leverage other funding programs to support biofutures projects.	The Queensland Government, through DSD, will engage major banks and other private investors/financiers to investigate finance solutions and scope out investment opportunities. The Queensland Government will also, wherever possible, leverage other funding programs to support biofutures projects.	DSD	Biofutures Queensland and DSD's Industry Attraction team will continue to hold regular meetings and discussions with representatives from ARENA, CEFC and QIC, to encourage investment into the sector and explore finance solutions. DSD's Industry Attraction has met with the major banks to encourage investment in the biofutures sector and will meet other private investors/financiers, including venture capitalists, to identify investment opportunities for Queensland.
<b>Foster greater supply chain development</b>	Establish functional, integrated, regional hubs to guide and inform supply chain growth (end to end) and leverage opportunities, and consider a Biofutures Supply Chain Engagement platform.	The Queensland Government's Biofutures Acceleration Program aims to attract and support the development of new biorefinery projects in Queensland, particularly in regional Queensland. DSD, through its regional offices and networks, is also investigating supply-chain opportunities across regional Queensland.	The Queensland Government, as part of its policy review, will work to identify any policy and legislative barriers to developing the supply chain and identify/prioritise areas in which government can assist.	DSD Supporting Agency: DSITI	In addition to the policy review (above), Biofutures Queensland will continue to engage DSD's Regional Economic Development team and local networks to identify and explore supply-chain 'hub' opportunities. DSITI to identify suitable challenge and deliver the Biofutures Innovation Challenge, as per the Biofutures Roadmap.
<b>Strengthen industry development, stakeholder engagement and partnerships</b>	Establish an industry reference group or roundtable with stakeholders. Government also needs to engage local councils as strategic partners to develop the biofutures industry and encourage growth in regional areas.	The Queensland Government will establish a new Biofutures Industry Leadership Group and engage local governments to identify collaborative projects to benefit the biofutures industry.	The Queensland Government, through DSD, will engage industry leaders and establish a new Biofutures Industry Leadership Group. DSD, through its regional offices and networks, will also engage local councils and collaborate on strategic initiatives to benefit the biofutures industry.	DSD	Biofutures Queensland and the Biofutures Industry Envoy are currently revising the existing Biofutures Industry Reference Group, i.e. its membership and terms of reference, to ensure its role and function will support the ongoing implementation of the Biofutures Roadmap, key actions and initiatives. Biofutures Queensland will investigate with DSD's Regional Directors collaborative opportunities with local government/councils.

## Acronyms

**DSD** Department of State Development

**DPC** Department of the Premier and Cabinet

**DSITI** Department of Science, Information Technology and Innovation

**DEWS** Department of Energy and Water Supply

**DEHP** Department of Environment and Heritage Protection

**DILGP** Department of Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning

**DAF** Department of Agriculture and Fisheries

**USDA** United States Department of Agriculture

**ARENA** Australian Renewable Energy Agency

**CEFC** Clean Energy Finance Corporation

**QIC** Queensland Investment Corporation

