

**October 03, 2007**  
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## **Biosolids Open Days**

Barwon Water is inviting people to its Biosolids Open Days at Black Rock water reclamation plant on October 6 and 7, 2007, to learn more about the recently announced biosolids project.

In September, Plenary Environment was awarded a contract to construct and operate a fully-enclosed thermal drying facility to treat Barwon Water's biosolids to the highest treatment grade, creating biosolids pellets suitable for use as nutrient-rich farm fertiliser or greenhouse-friendly alternative fuel.

Biosolids are produced when a natural sewage treatment process, such as that used at the Black Rock water reclamation plant, is used to create recycled water.

This is an important step in Barwon Water's long-term goal to operate a 'no waste' sewerage system – where 100 per cent of recycled water and biosolids are committed to sustainable use.

When completed in mid-2009 it will be the only thermal biosolids drying plant in Australia, although the technology is well proven with many plants operating overseas.

The project will recycle 100 per cent of biosolids from all Barwon Water's water reclamation plants, while reducing greenhouse gas generation by up to 40 per cent when compared with alternative treatment methods.

Other benefits of the drying facility include fewer truck movements to and from the Black Rock site and an 80 percent reduction in the land area required for biosolids processing.

As part of the project Barwon Water will also commence a major landscaping and revegetation program that will see 52,000 indigenous species planted around the treatment plant in the first year.

The Open Days are an opportunity to learn more about biosolids, see where the biosolids drying facility will be built and how it will operate.

**When:** 11am to 3pm

Saturday, October 6 and Sunday, October 7, 2007

**Where:** Black Rock water reclamation plant

Black Rock Road, Connewarre (Melway ref: Map 495 E5)

For more information on the Open Days call Barwon Water on 5226 2518 or email [biosolids@barwonwater.vic.gov.au](mailto:biosolids@barwonwater.vic.gov.au).

**Ends**