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Harmful biogas captured as new council scheme tackles carbon emissions

The Western Downs Regional Council has turned landfill waste into a revenue stream, capturing more than 10,430 cubic metres of harmful biogas in just two months under a new carbon-cutting partnership.

Zachary Probert July 31, 2026 - 8:32AM



Opening of landfill gas project at Winfields Road Waste Management Centre in Jandowae

Carbon emissions slashed and harmful biogas captured in substantial amounts in the Western Downs in response to a landmark carbon cutting agreement in the region.

The Western Downs Regional Council and LGI Limited have partnered in a project to use landfill biogas recovery to provide power to the main national electricity grid.

The project has entailed LGI to recover the biogas from the Jandowae Waste Management Facility and reduce methane emissions via an enclosed flaring unit.

The methane abatement approach would be measurable, immediate and irreversible.

So far, the WDRC has slashed carbon emissions by 9909 tonnes and captured more than 10430 cubic metres of harmful biogas in two months.

The results would see local ratepayers receive a share of the Australian Carbon Credit Units revenue generated by the reduced landfill gas emissions.

Western Downs Regional Council mayor Andrew Smith said the reduction of harmful methane gas emissions was a big win for the community and the environment.

“Unflared methane biogas from landfills accounts for well over half of Western Downs Regional Council’s carbon emissions,” Mr Smith said.

“It’s a problem LGI is helping us address so we can achieve a 30 percent reduction in emissions by 2030, a 75 percent reduction by 2035 and net zero by 2050.”

Mr Smith said the partnership would improve air quality, reduce odour and create a revenue stream for the council.

LGI chief executive Jarryd Doran said phase one of the project was almost complete which included the installation of a new flaring unit, the drilling of 12 gas wells and the connection of a network of below and above ground pipes to the flare.

“It’s evident the leaders at Western Downs Regional Council and the local community are serious about saving money while transitioning to a cleaner, greener future,” Mr Doran said.