

LITHIUM BATTERIES: RISK, RESPONSE & READINESS



As lithium-ion battery volumes continue to rise across the waste and recycling stream, so too do the operational, safety and regulatory challenges facing Queensland's resource recovery sector, with operators increasingly being required to respond to risks that are difficult to detect, manage and contain.

This dedicated industry forum will focus on the practical actions, systems and technologies needed to better identify, manage and respond to lithium battery risks across collection, transport, storage and processing environments.

Key areas of discussion will include:

- Battery identification, handling and incident response across collection vehicles, transfer stations and MRFs
- Practical site solutions and technologies, including AI detection, thermal and odour monitoring, extinguishing systems and containment approaches
- Safe storage, handling and recycling pathways for end-of-life batteries
- Emerging stewardship, regulatory developments and industry preparedness

The forum will conclude with an industry discussion on the potential development of a dedicated training course focused on lithium battery risk management across the waste and recycling sector.

TUESDAY 4 AUGUST 2026

12:30 - 6:00pm

Elaine Room, The Glen Hotel
Cnr. Logan Rd. & Gaskell St,
Eight Mile Plains

REGISTRATION

WRIQ Members: \$165 inc GST

Non Members: \$220 inc GST

*Includes afternoon tea,
drinks and canapés*

DRESS CODE:

Business casual.

Hi-vis workwear is welcome
and encouraged

BOOKING ENQUIRIES

T: 07 3067 3315 or

E: events@wriq.com.au

**CLICK HERE
TO REGISTER >**

<https://events.humanitix.com/260804>

FORUM PROGRAM

1230 Registration, tea and coffee

1300 **Welcome & housekeeping**

Alison Price | CEO | Waste Recycling Industry Association QLD

Identifying the Risk: Detection, Solutions and Storage

1315 **Framing the lithium battery challenge from a local government perspective**

David McAlister | **Manager Resource Recovery** | Ipswich City Council

1335 **Operational Solutions for Lithium Battery Risk**

This session focuses on established solutions already in use across the waste and recycling sector. Speakers will share real-world experience in identifying, managing and responding to lithium battery risks, with a focus on operational performance and lessons learned: what is working, how solutions are being applied on the ground, and how these approaches might translate across different facility types and contexts.

- > **F-500 EA - a PFAS free, non toxic and biodegradable solution for LiB fires in waste**
Peter Jefferies | Director | Encaps
- > **Reducing resource recovery risk on the path to autonomous waste facilities of tomorrow**
Ani Goswami | Founder & CEO | Oscorp Energy
- > **Using autonomous AI thermal water cannons to mitigate fire risk in waste and recycling**
Sean Haviland | Director | Magnum Australia
- > **EcoBatt: Identification, actions and closing the gaps**
Zoltan Sekula | Engineering Manager - Battery Systems and Energy Recovery | Ecocycle-Ecobatt

1420 **Battery Fires - Where are we at? A look at the current state of battery fire risk across the waste and recycling sector**

Brett Lemin | Executive Director | Waste Contractors & Recyclers Association of NSW

1430 **HEPA National Guideline for Safe Management of End-of-Life Lithium-Ion Batteries**

Chester Foley | Senior Policy Officer | EPA Victoria

1450 **Questions and discussion**

1515 Afternoon tea break

Responding to the Risk: Behaviour, Protocols and Training

1530 **Adapting MRF operations for the Lithium Battery Crisis: Risk, response and resilience**

Benjamin May | Growth and Partnerships Manager - Queensland | Re.Group

1550 **Operations Deep Dive: What happens when you put that battery in that bin?**

Ben Arthur | State Manager QLD/NT Local Government and Infrastructure Growth | Cleanaway

1610 **Questions and discussion**

1620 **DISCUSSION: What should a WRAQ training course cover?**

This discussion will explore what dedicated WRIQ training for the sector should cover, including how courses might be tailored to different operational contexts such as hot loads and MRF environments.

Led by: Glenn Eales | General Manager | Envirocom

1650 **Wrap up and close**

Alison Price | CEO | Waste Recycling Industry Association QLD

1700 - 1800 **Networking (drinks and canapés)**