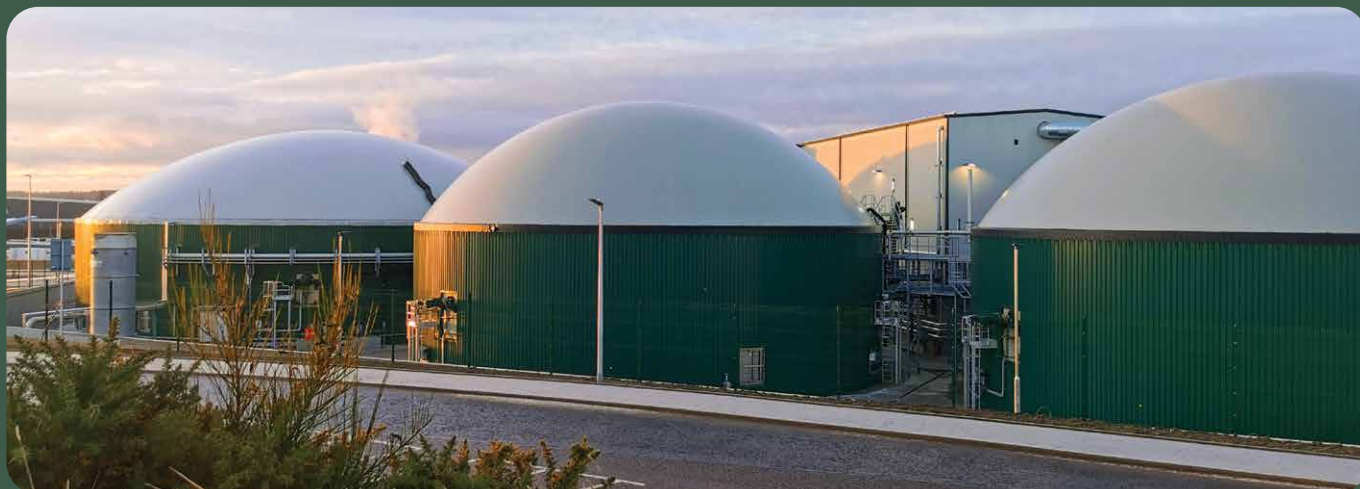




Proposed upgrade of the Central West Nutrient Return Centre.

A proposed anaerobic digestion facility and GORE® covered composting for organics recovery. New anaerobic digestion plant and covered composting infrastructure.

1

Recovering organics

2

Returning nutrients

3

Producing renewable energy

We're a family-owned business based in Forbes, and since 2019 we've been transforming organic material into compost at our site north-east of Forbes. We're proposing to expand the facility to process up to 90,000 tonnes of organic material per year, incorporating anaerobic digestion, GORE® covered composting and additional environmental controls. The proposal would increase organics recovery, produce compost and generate renewable biogas. We're consulting early so you can learn more about the proposal, ask questions and provide feedback as the project design and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) are developed.

The project has not been approved. Feedback received during consultation will be considered as the project design is refined and the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is prepared.

Why have I received this brochure?

You're receiving this because you live, own land, run a business or are part of the local community near our site. We're consulting with neighbours, nearby businesses and the broader community to share information about the proposal and hear your views as the project design and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) are developed.

Community Open Day

Saturday 24 October 2026

10am – 11.30am & 12pm – 1.30pm

Topsoil Farm Supplies, 48 Back Yamma Road, Forbes, NSW 2871

SEE BACK FOR MORE DETAILS

FREE SITE BUS TOURS

SEE THE PLANS

HAVE YOUR SAY

What is changing?

The Central West Nutrient Return Centre is Topsoil's Organics processing facility north-east of Forbes. The facility currently processes food and garden organics, manure and other organic agricultural materials into compost and soil products. The proposal includes an anaerobic digestion system to convert food organics into renewable biogas, a new enclosed processing building and GORE® covered composting bays. Existing composting operations would continue alongside the proposed new infrastructure, with changes to processing arrangements and additional environmental controls incorporated as part of the project

What is proposed

- Anaerobic digestion system: a sealed process that breaks down food organics without oxygen and produces renewable biogas
- Combined heat and power (CHP) system: uses renewable biogas produced through anaerobic digestion to generate electricity and useful heat for the facility
- New enclosed processing building: for receiving and sorting food and garden organics
- GORE® covered composting bays: a specialised covered composting system that helps control airflow, moisture and temperature, while improving odour containment and reducing emissions to the surrounding environment
- Odour, leachate and digestate management: additional systems to capture and treat odour and collect and manage leachate (liquid that drains from organic material) and digestate.
- Biogas upgrading equipment: to upgrade surplus biogas to biomethane for potential supply to the local gas network, subject to final design, network operator requirements and relevant approvals.

What goes in and comes out

Accepted materials

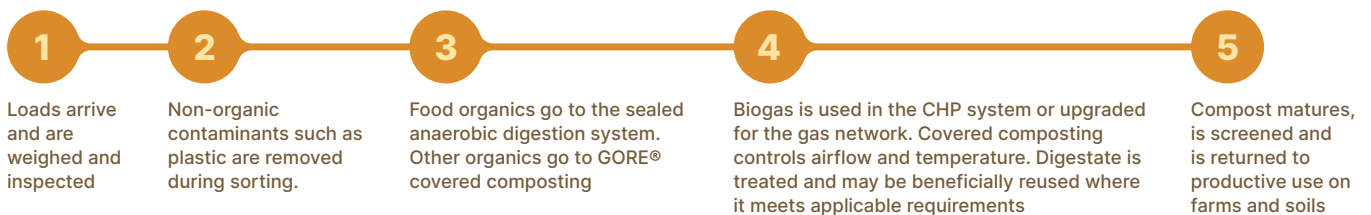
- Food organics, including from household FOGO (Food Organics and Garden Organics) services
- Garden organics
- Manure and other organic agricultural materials

The proposed facility will continue to focus on the food, garden and agricultural organic materials managed by Topsoil Organics.

Outputs

- Compost and soil products for farms, landscapes and gardens
- Renewable biogas for use in the proposed CHP system, with surplus biogas potentially upgraded to biomethane for supply to the local gas network, subject to final design, network arrangements and relevant approvals.
- Digestate: nutrient-rich material remaining after anaerobic digestion, which may be beneficially reused where it meets applicable standards and approval requirements.

How the process works



What does this mean for our community?

The proposed project aims to create long-term value for Forbes and the wider Central West, while considering the people who live and work closest to the site. Potential benefits include supporting local jobs, businesses and contractors; strengthening local and regional organics processing infrastructure; increasing capacity for organics recovery; returning valuable nutrients to Australian soils; and producing renewable gas. Subject to final design, network arrangements and approvals, surplus renewable gas may also be upgraded to biomethane for potential supply to the local gas network. As a local, family-owned business, we want the project to develop in a way that considers our neighbours, nearby businesses and the wider community.

Let's talk about the details.

The proposed development is classified as State Significant Development (SSD) and will be assessed by the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure. As part of the assessment process, an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be prepared to assess potential environmental and community impacts and identify measures to avoid, minimise and manage those impacts.

01 What about odour?

Odour management is a key consideration in the proposed design. The proposal includes additional controls intended to improve odour containment and reduce emissions, including enclosed receiving and processing areas, a sealed anaerobic digestion system, GORE® covered composting and odour capture and treatment systems. Potential odour impacts and the effectiveness of the proposed controls will be assessed through an odour impact assessment as part of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

02 How will other potential impacts be assessed?

Air quality, traffic, noise, water and leachate management, biodiversity and other matters identified by the NSW Government will be assessed through technical studies prepared by specialist consultants. The EIS will document the assessment findings, potential impacts and proposed measures to avoid, minimise and manage those impacts.

03 Will the operating hours change?

No changes to the approved operating hours are proposed. Operational activities at the site, including sales and operation of plant and equipment, are permitted between 7am and 10pm, Monday to Sunday. Truck loading and unloading and use of the truck wheel wash may occur outside these hours. No activities are permitted on public holidays.

04 When would construction happen?

Construction would only commence if the project is approved and would be undertaken in stages. Further details on construction timing, activities and potential impacts will be assessed and documented in the EIS.

Why now?

From July 2026, NSW law requires certain businesses to separate food organics, and from 1 July 2030, NSW councils will be required to provide FOGO collection services to households that receive a council residual waste collection service. More food and garden organics will need to be processed across the region. The proposal would see more of this material recovered and returned to productive use as compost, which can partly replace conventional fertilisers on farms. Renewable biogas produced on site could be used in the proposed CHP system to generate electricity and heat for use at the facility, helping to meet part of the site's energy needs and potentially reducing reliance on externally supplied energy and fossil fuels.

What happens next?

Your feedback is important at this stage, while the project design and environmental studies are being developed. Feedback received during consultation will be documented and considered as part of the EIS and community engagement process.

- The NSW Government has issued requirements setting out the matters that must be addressed in the environmental studies. We are here.
- Specialist consultants prepare the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), informed by technical studies and community feedback.
- The EIS is placed on formal public exhibition, providing another opportunity for the community to review the proposal and make a formal submission to the NSW Government.
- The NSW Government assesses the proposal and makes a decision.

HAVE YOUR SAY

Closing the loop. Growing the future.

Community Open Day

Saturday 24 October 2026

10am – 11.30am & 12pm – 1.30pm

FREE SITE BUS TOURS



Topsoil Farm Supplies,
48 Back Yamma Road, Forbes NSW, 2870



No booking required. If you would like to join a site tour, please contact us by 15th October on 1800 867 674 or email info@topsoilorganics.com.au.

What to expect

- Meet the Topsoil team and learn more about the proposal.
- Take a bus tour of the existing facility and see how food and garden organics are currently processed into compost.
- View plans and images of the proposed anaerobic digestion facility, processing building and other proposed infrastructure.
- Ask questions and provide feedback on the proposal

Can't make the open day?

You can ask questions or provide feedback by phone or email, or through the project page and online feedback form using the QR code below. Feedback received by Friday 6 November 2026 will be considered during preparation of the EIS. You can continue to contact Topsoil with questions or feedback throughout the project.

About Topsoil Organics

We're a family-owned business based in Forbes. Since 2019, our team has been processing food and garden organics into compost and soil products for beneficial use on farms and soils across the region.

As a local business, we recognise the importance of considering our neighbours, nearby businesses and the wider community as we plan for the future.



1800 867 674

Contact Topsoil Organics

Call or email us any time with questions or feedback.

info@topsoilorganics.com.au

Project site and office: 14 Walker Drive, Forbes NSW 2871

topsoilorganics.com.au



SCAN TO LEARN MORE