

Council Reference: PRU General
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TWEED
SHIRE COUNCIL

1 June 2011

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Please address all communications
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Dear Sir,

Letter of Appreciation - Recent Site Tour - 11 May 2011

I write to thank you for the recent site tour which you most generously conducted of the Mitchell Eco Industrial Estate for Tweed Shire Councils Planning Reforms staff.

Your informative discussions as we walked around the site which identified the key innovations provided our team with an invaluable insight into the working process, the hard work and dedication invested in establishing what is truly a benchmark eco-industrial park of world class standard.

Our team was particularly impressed with the way in which the site has been holistically planned as a fully managed and integrated water cycling system which captures stores and treats water from around the site. The real innovation of this system is the way in which water management has been design as an open articulation of the water cycle system in which its series and networks of small oxygenating tributaries, cleansing reed beds, central wetland area combined with substantial native vegetation plantings significantly improve the visual amenity of the industrial park. Never have we seen before an industrial park of such a high visual and amenity quality.

We were also impressed how the site had been planned to accommodate the range of recycled sheds of varying sizes given that the site is also significantly sloping. The system of site benching, locally sourced rock retaining walls and thick native landscaping between the benched areas reduces the amount of bulk earth works required, with the vegetative screen both providing a green buffer between the sheds. With the established native tree canopies providing passive solar shade from the hot sun combined with the deep eaves, insulation, thermal mass of the lower level concrete block work and passive ventilation, it was no surprise how comfortable the internal ambient temperatures of the sheds were on what was quite a hot day.

Your eco-industrial parks design response to site, context, materiality and environmental sensibility are the principles we are trying to promote here in the Tweed. You have shown us how it can be done. We once again thank you for the generous amount of time spent sharing your experiences with us and good luck with your future innovations and developments.

Kind Regards


John Lynch
Urban Designer
1st June 2011