



Engineered Wood Products  
Association Australasia  
Caloundra Conference  
10 May 2008

David Sharp - BPIC



# Overview

- What is BPIC and what does BPIC do?
- The BPIC ICIP Life Cycle Inventory Project.
- Productivity Commission Regulatory Burden Review.



BPIC.ASN.AU



AUSTRALIAN STEEL INSTITUTE



CEMENT CONCRETE & AGGREGATES AUSTRALIA



Concrete Masonry Association of Australia



Gypsum Board Manufacturers of Australia



Insulation Manufacturers Association of Australia  
A.B.N. 11 000 596 004



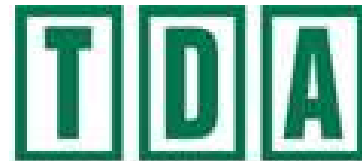
NATIONAL MANUFACTURER'S COUNCIL



ROOFING TILE ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA



STEEL REINFORCEMENT INSTITUTE OF AUSTRALIA



TIMBER DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION



Association of Building Sustainability Assessors



Australian Institute of Building Surveyors



building designers association of australia ltd



**The Building Products Innovation Council (BPIC) is the national body representing Australia's building product associations.**

BPIC's members and associated companies directly employs over 200,000 Australians with more than 470,000 employed indirectly. Their collective industries are worth over \$54bn annually to the Australian economy.



# BPIC's Prime Objective

To provide unified and coordinated representation of the building products industry to Government and regulators while providing a forum for discussion and information sharing between manufacturers.



# BPIC's Strategic Initiatives

1. Codes and Standards
2. Sustainability
3. Affordability

# Codes and Standards

- BPIC represents the building products sector on the Building Codes Committee (BCC) of the Australian Building Codes Board (ABCB).
- Membership of the BCC is vital to BPIC in order to promote a nationally consistent approach to building regulations and the compliance framework

# Sustainability

One of BPIC's goals is to establish a framework for the fair selection of building materials and products based on Whole of Life Assessment.

# Affordability

BPIC helps to ensure that there is informed debate on the impact of building materials and products on affordability.

For example to ensure that the part the building materials and products play in the total installed cost of a construction element.



# BPIC ICIP Project

BPIC is leading the building materials and products industry in providing robust Australian Life Cycle Inventory (LCI) Data as part of the AusLCI project.

BPIC is leading a consortia of the Australian Life Cycle Assessment Society and BRANZ in partnership with the Department of Innovation, Science, Research and Industry with the support and participation of BPIC's major national representative associations

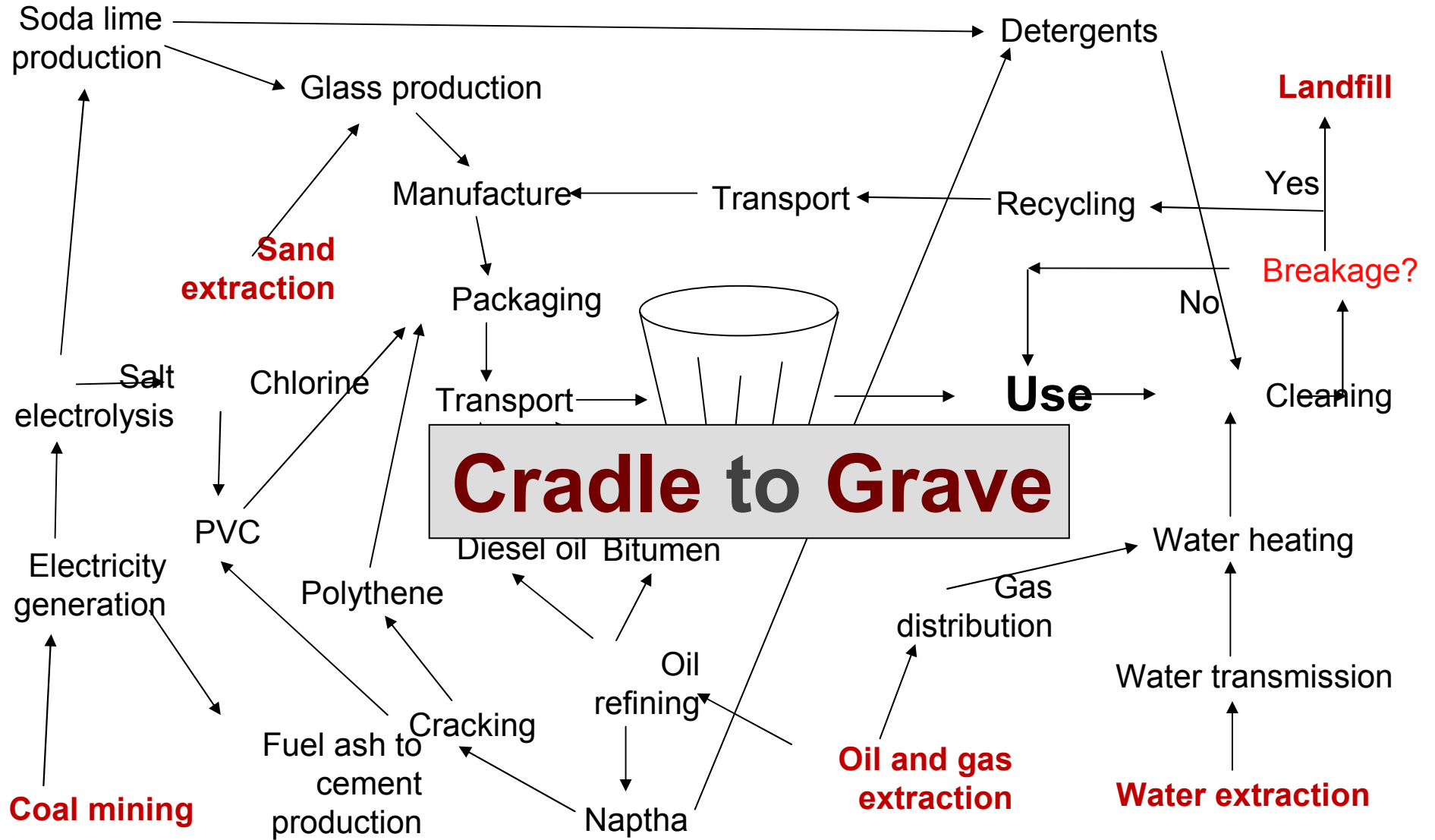
# Sustainability – Buzz Words

- Reused, Recycled, Recycled Content, Recyclable
- Carbon Neutral
- Natural, Renewable
- Locally sourced
- Low ecological impact
- Low embodied energy
- Chemical Free

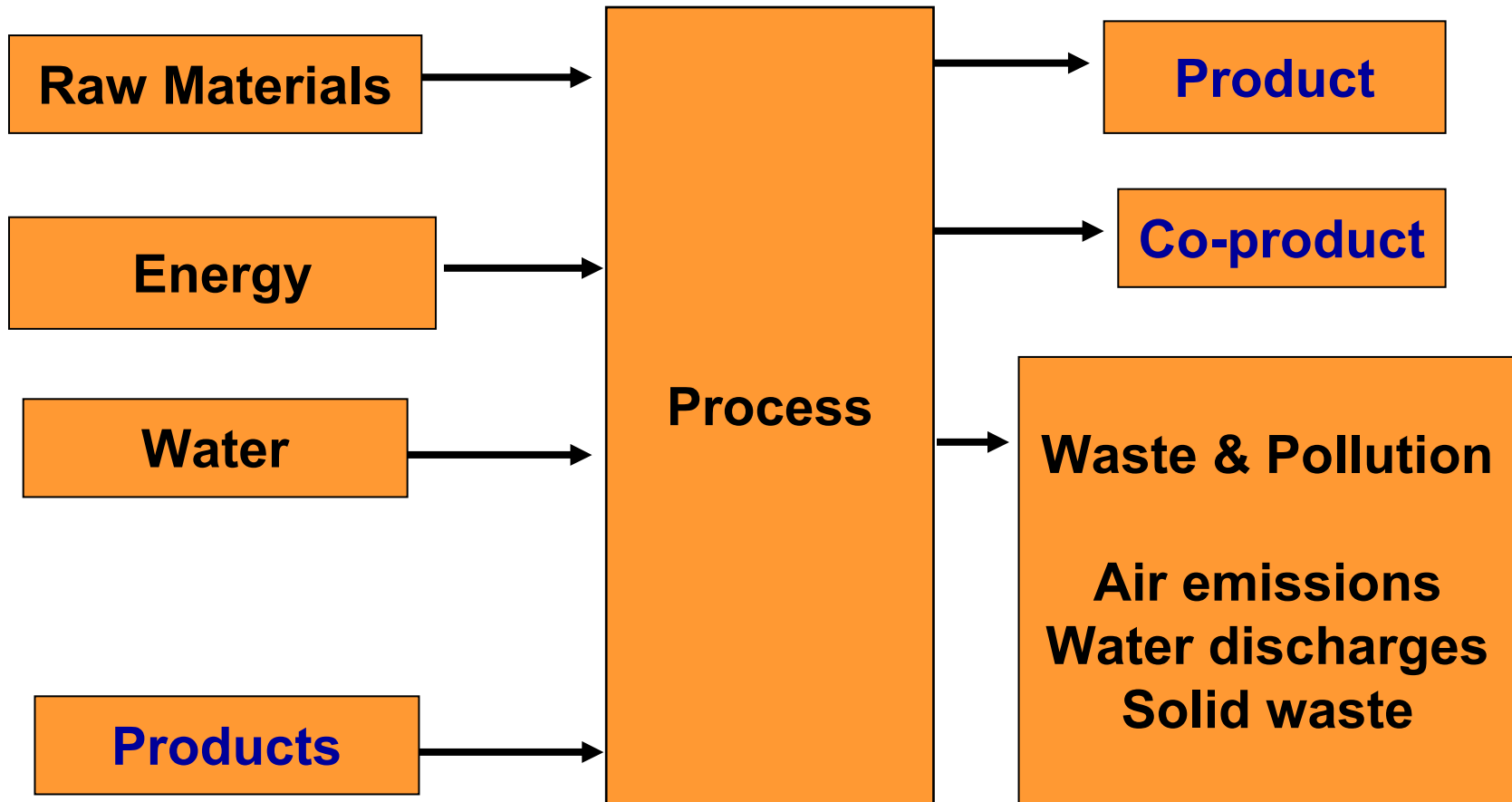
# Sustainability – Buzz Words

- Reused, Recycled, Recycled Content, Recyclable
- Carbon Neutral
- Natural, Renewable
- Locally sourced
- Low ecological impact
- Low embodied energy
- Chemical Free
- Dolphin Friendly
- Nice for the neighbours

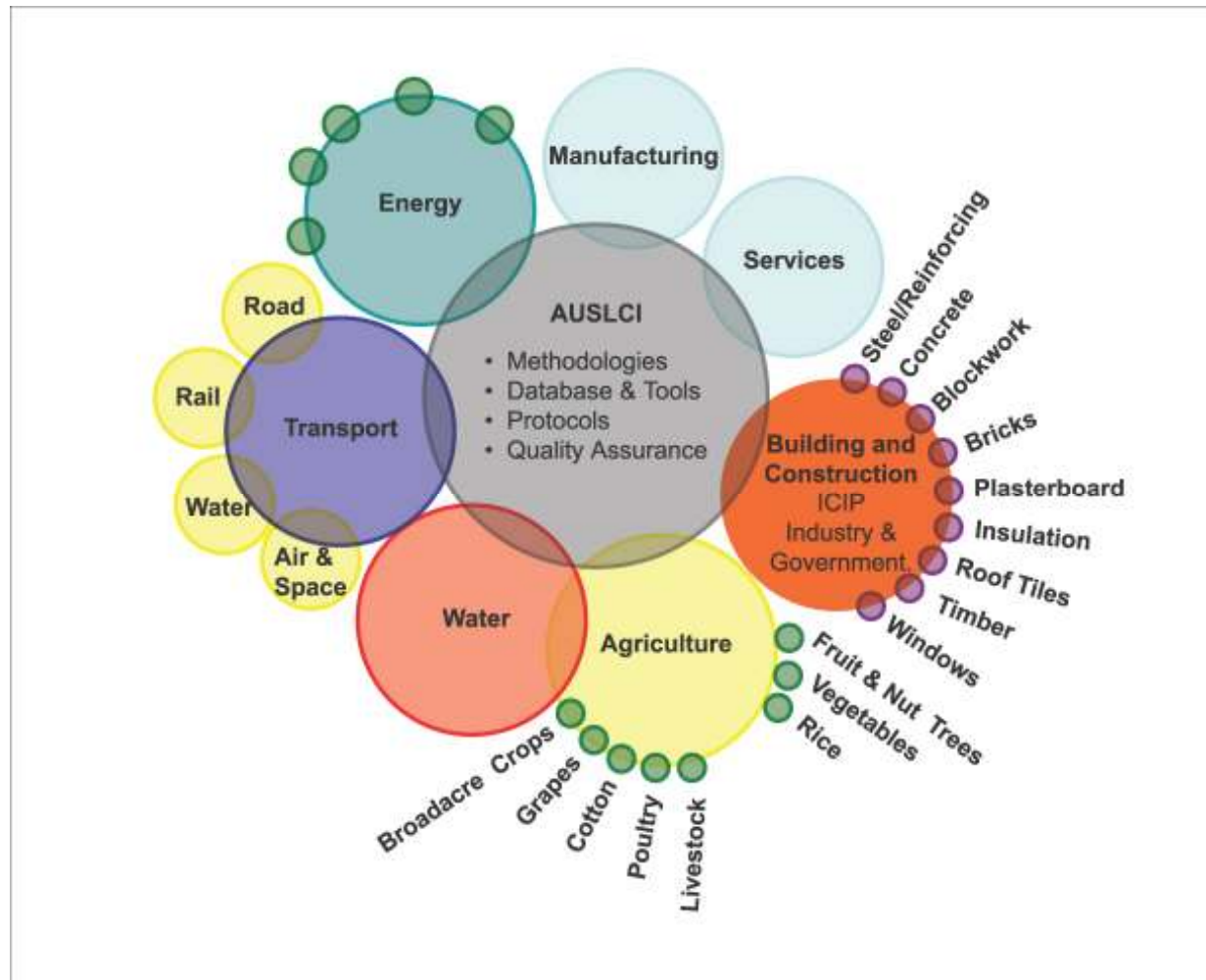
# LCA of a Glass



# Unit Processes



# AusLCI



# BPIC ICIP Outcomes

- A consistent "level playing field" methodology for use in building materials and products Life Cycle Assessments (LCA)
- An extensive database of LCI data for Australian building materials and products all compiled in accordance with the methodology and protocol for how to use it in LCA.
- A database of replacement lives for materials, products and elements of construction used in Australian buildings.
- A consistent set of weightings for the relative importance of different environmental impacts in different locations and climates.

# How will the Data be Used

Provide a foundation of robust Australian Data to support Whole of Life Design Tools.

Make it easier for the BCA to incorporate Sustainability of Building Materials.

# Productivity Commission

- Annual Review of Regulatory Burdens
- Includes Regulation of Building Products
- 2008 Review BPIC Council raised a concern about the enforcement of regulations in particular with respect to the use of structural plywood.



[www.pc.gov.au/projects/study/regulatoryburdens](http://www.pc.gov.au/projects/study/regulatoryburdens)

The Australian Building Codes Board should determine whether compliance programs for standards on structural plywood are currently effective. If not, it should consider the costs and benefits of restricting acceptable forms of evidence of suitability against other options for inducing higher rates of compliance.

