

News Release



Wednesday April 23, 2008

More than \$120 million to recharge St George

More than \$120 million of works is underway to upgrade the electricity network across the St George region helping to boost power supplies to more than 30,000 homes and businesses.

These projects are part of a \$226 million investment into the St George region's electricity network to 2012.

Executive General Manager Network Geoff Lilliss said the major electricity upgrade was part of EnergyAustralia's plans to renew the local electricity network and cater for increasing demand for power.

"Demand for power is growing at more than 3.5% a year across the St George region," Mr Lilliss said.

"Major commercial and residential development in areas like Hurstville and Arncliffe is helping to drive that demand.

"This \$120 million upgrade will help renew parts of the local electricity network and boost supply to make sure we can continue to meet that demand."

The upgrade includes replacement of major underground cabling connecting major supply points at Peakhurst, Hurstville, Kogarah, Mortdale and Riverwood.

Other work to take place under the \$120 million upgrade includes:

- Replacement of 33,000 volt underground cables that transfer electricity between EnergyAustralia's substations at Peakhurst, Mortdale and Riverwood
- Replacement of 132,000 volt underground cables supplying the Kogarah area from Peakhurst.
- Construction of a new building to house new switching equipment and installation of new low noise electricity transformers at the Mortdale zone substation
- New equipment at the Peakhurst substation.

"EnergyAustralia is talking to the local community about our plans and will be providing opportunities for residents to find out more about the projects through community information displays," Mr Lilliss said.

Community information displays on the major upgrades are now taking place. The first was held at the Second Mortdale Scout Hall on Tuesday April 22, the Kingsway Scout Hall in Hurstville on Tuesday April 29 and at Carlton Scout Hall in Bexley on Thursday May 1.

More details can be obtained by emailing majorprojects@energy.com.au or calling 1 800 214 193.

** Fact sheet on the \$120 million plans to upgrade the St George electricity network attached*

Media contact: EnergyAustralia News Pager 02 9966 7985.

St George electricity upgrade

Replacement of 33,000 volt underground cables to transfer electricity between EnergyAustralia's substations at Peakhurst, Mortdale and Riverwood

New 132,000 volt cables to replace existing transmission supply to the Kogarah area from Peakhurst.

- The replacement of cables will involve digging trenches, laying plastic pipes known as conduits to house the new cables, underground joint bays, the installation and joining of cables and resurfacing roads. Residents directly affected by works have been informed. Work is expected to start on the Peakhurst to Kogarah cabling in May 2008, the Peakhurst to Mortdale cabling in June 2008 and the Peakhurst to Riverwood cabling in late 2008.

Construction of a new building to house switching equipment at the Mortdale zone substation

- Located on the same site as the existing substation, EnergyAustralia will be asking owners of neighbouring properties for their input into the design of the building later this year. Work is expected to start in April 2009.

The installation of new low noise transformers at the Mortdale zone substation

- The installation of these modern units will ensure that residents will hear little if any noise once all the units are connected to the network. One unit has already been installed and work to install the remaining two is expected to take place in May 2008. As a result of vehicles travelling to and from the Mortdale site to deliver the equipment some temporary parking restrictions and early morning vehicle movements are to be expected.

New equipment at the Peakhurst substation

- Additional equipment will be installed in EnergyAustralia's Peakhurst substation in an industrial area off Norman Street. Expected start date is late 2010.

Kogarah Zone Substation

- Site works began in February this year to construct a new zone substation to replace the existing outdoor substation at Carlton. The building is expected to be complete by January 2009, with the substation commissioned later in the year.

Future works as part of the \$226 million investment for St George region

Hurstville North Zone Substation

- Initial planning for the redevelopment of the existing substation at Hurstville North has started. This will reduce load at the Peakhurst sub transmission station and zone substations at Arncliffe and Sans Souci. Work is expected to begin in 2011/12.

Rockdale new Zone Substation

- Initial planning for the redevelopment of the existing substation at Rockdale has started. This will reduce load at the Peakhurst sub transmission station and zone substations at Arncliffe and Sans Souci. Work is expected to begin in 2012/13.