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## **New Morisset zone substation now in service**

EnergyAustralia's new \$20 million Morisset Zone substation is up and running, boosting power supply to more than 2000 homes and businesses throughout south-western Lake Macquarie.

The new substation will help meet growing demand for power in the Morisset, Cooranbong and Wyee areas, including the thriving industrial area at Morisset.

EnergyAustralia Network General Manager Geoff Lilliss said the substation had also been designed to protect a colony of squirrel gliders and their habitat.

"Demand for power in Lake Macquarie is growing at more than two per cent a year," Mr Lilliss said.

"This new zone substation will help cater for this growing demand and provide a more reliable supply of power.

"The network in this south-western area of the Lake will be further strengthened when we complete the new zone substation at Rathmines.

"We moved the substation to protect a wildlife corridor for squirrel gliders on the site and to retain as many trees as possible in a grove of eucalypts (*Angophora inopina*) that are only found between Charmhaven and Wyee."

A purpose-built work depot has also been built on site, providing better long-term facilities for around 100 of EnergyAustralia's field services staff in the area.

Construction of the Morisset zone substation included:

- A new, 132/11kV zone substation to replace an existing, smaller (33/11kV) substation
- A 132kV power line diversion to supply the substation at higher voltage;
- Associated 11kV power line works;
- A new, purpose-built depot.

The Morisset substation is part of a record \$443 million that EnergyAustralia will be spending up to 2012 on network improvements in Lake Macquarie and Newcastle.

In total, EnergyAustralia has committed \$910 million to improvements across its Hunter supply network between now and 2012.

Media contact: EnergyAustralia Hunter News Pager 02 9962 9754