Factsheet

About the Project

The work at Wallerawang power station will occur in three stages, Decommissioning, Dismantling and Rehabilitation (DDR).

1. Decommissioning

Decommissioning work started in December 2014. This work includes de-electrifying plant and equipment as well as storing or removing hazardous materials. The salvage project which forms part of this phase, started in May 2015.

2. Dismantling

During this phase of this project you will see the dismantling of buildings as well as plant and equipment that was not included as part of the salvage program.

3. Rehabilitation

As part of this phase, we will be working with relevant authorities to develop plans to rehabilitate the site. Once the initial rehabilitation has been completed, EnergyAustralia will be undertaking ongoing site monitoring and maintenance.



Wallerawang power station

Wallerawang Power station, near Lithgow, was a 1000MW coal-fired power station that began operating in 1957.

During its lifetime, it played an important role in providing power for the western rail electrification and the development of New South Wales' western coalfields. More recently, it has helped supply electricity to the NSW residential and business energy market.

In November 2014, we announced the closure of Wallerawang power station. Wallerawang's age and relative high costs – combined with falling demand for energy - were key factors that led to this decision.

We are now in the process of permanently decommissioning and dismantling the power station and rehabilitating all operational parts of the site.

This is a large and complex project that is expected to take four years to complete.

To ensure this work is completed in a safe and responsible manner, it will take some time to develop our plans in consultation with relevant authorities and the local community.

At this stage, we expect to submit our dismantling and rehabilitation plans for approval by early 2016. These plans will be available for public review and feedback as part of the planning approval process.

About the salvage program

As part of the decommissioning work, we will be undertaking a salvage program.

This work is expected to start in May and take around two years to complete and will see the safe removal of all usable plant and equipment for resale. Money raised from this work will be put towards the cost of dismantling and rehabilitating Wallerawang power station.



Environment

EnergyAustralia manages Wallerawang and Mt Piper in a responsible manner that protects both the local environment and heritage of the region.

As part of developing the dismantling and rehabilitation plans for Wallerawang, we will be undertaking an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). This assessment will help us to identify how the rehabilitation of the power station should be approached in order to comply with current environmental and heritage requirements.

We have also reviewed heritage registered items and steps will be taken to ensure that these items – such as the chimney stack - are protected during the dismantling process.

Ongoing site maintenance and monitoring will take place once the initial rehabilitation phase has been completed.

Community

Sharing news of our plans and approach with the local community is a key part of our project management approach.

Our Community Reference Group (CRG) provides interested members of the public with an opportunity to obtain information and share feedback on a regular basis. For more information on this forum, please visit our website, www.energyaustralia.com.au/wallerawang

About EnergyAustralia

EnergyAustralia provides gas, electricity and energy efficient products and advice to more than 2.6 million residential and business customers in Australia. Our business is based on access to competitively-priced supplies, secured from the wholesale market, our generation portfolio of coal and gas-fired power stations and renewable energy sources.



Fast facts

When will work start?

Work on decommissioning the power station started in December 2014. Dismantling and rehabilitation work will not start until after this project phase has been completed.

How long will this work take?

The full rehabilitation of the Wallerawang power station site is expected to take at least four years to complete.

What approvals are required?

Before any dismantling or rehabilitation work can start our plans need to be approved by the relevant authorities. These plans will be submitted as part of a development application that will then be reviewed before any decision is made.



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If you have any enquires please email contactus@energyaustraliansw.com.au with your preferred contact details.