

Stakeholder Newsletter

May 2013

Mungullah Power Station Project

Work on Carnarvon's new power station is progressing well, with commissioning and testing of the generation units due to commence in July 2013.



Crane operators were busy in February, March and April this year taking delivery of ten 50-tonne engine generator units at Carnarvon's new 18 megawatt (MW) Mungullah Power Station and placing them carefully on pre-laid concrete pads.

There are a total of 10 generators installed at the power station: five diesel and five gas fired generators. The gas fired generators are the prime power units and will provide base power to Carnarvon, and the diesel generators will provide peak load generation to assist the gas units when there is high demand during the hotter months of the year.



This project milestone follows another significant achievement in September 2012 when the power station site was connected to the Dampier to Bunbury Gas Pipeline Carnarvon Lateral which will enable the power station to generate electricity efficiently using natural gas as its main fuel source.

The new power station will be commissioned in July and will undergo reliability testing for a 30-day period. Final site works, such as landscaping, are expected to be completed by October / November 2013.

Once the Mungullah Power Station is in service, power will cease to be generated from the existing power station. This will reduce the noise pollution experienced by some local residents. The existing Carnarvon Power Station will be retained as an emergency standby generation facility for a period of time and then decommissioned.

Working with the community

Horizon Power has worked alongside the traditional owners and custodians of the area, the Yinggarda People, throughout the project.

In February this year, the Mungullah Community Aboriginal Corporation (MCAC) presented Horizon Power with a painting by local Aboriginal artist and Mungullah community member, Mr Dougy Walley, to celebrate the naming of Carnarvon's new power station after the hill on which it is being built.



MCAC's Chairman, Mr Dennis Jones, was pleased to present the painting to the Horizon Power Board and said the painting symbolises the positive and respectful relationship between MCAC, the Aboriginal community and Horizon Power.

Project background

Horizon Power is responsible for the generation and distribution of electricity for the Carnarvon community and is building a new power station to ensure the long-term electricity needs of the Carnarvon community are met.

The current Carnarvon power station was owned and built by the Shire of Carnarvon in 1967 and was purchased in 1982 by the Government of Western Australia who has since continued to manage it.

The new power station will comprise an improved dual-fuel system, using both gas and diesel generation technology. The project is funded by State Government and Horizon Power will build, own and operate the new power station at Brown Range, six and a half kilometres south-east of Carnarvon.

Benefits of the new power station:

- The power station site is away from the town centre so it will be significantly quieter than the old power station located near residential areas.
- Security of power supplies will be ensured as the new power station has been designed to incorporate dual-fuel technology, using both gas and diesel fuel sources to generate electricity. The site location has access to natural gas fuel supplies via a lateral extension of the Dampier to Bunbury Natural Gas Pipeline (DBNGP).
- The power station can supply power from natural gas resources, which will mean the power is generated more efficiently and it is a better result for the environment.
- The power station design allows for future growth in the town, so additional generation and supporting infrastructure can be added when it is needed.
- A safer and more reliable network. Two high voltage feeder cables have been installed rather than one for contingency purposes. The feeders are underground to protect them from climatic conditions.

If you would like further information about the Mungullah Power Station Project, please contact Community and Customer Relations Manager, Dave Shelton, on 9941 6299.

Project timeline

2011

- March - Energy Minister Peter Collier turned the first sod to mark the start of construction.
- August - site earth works to clear native bush land completed.
- Power station site fully signed, fenced and secure.
- December - installation completed of two high voltage express feeder cables.

2012

- February - site construction commenced.
- March - step-up transformers installed.
- May - main switch room installed.
- September - connection of power station to the Dampier to Bunbury Natural Gas Pipeline Carnarvon Lateral completed.

2013

- January - concrete foundations for generation units completed.
- February - high voltage switch room delivered and installed.
- February to April - delivery and installation of five diesel and five gas fired generation units.
- April - underground works to install the high voltage cables from the generator enclosures to the switch room completed.
- July* - commissioning and reliability testing of new power station to commence.
- August* - end of 30-day reliability testing period.

* Subject to change as project progresses



Carnarvon students learn about electricity

In March this year, 26 students from Carnarvon Christian School and their teachers toured the Carnarvon Power Station located on Iles Road as part of their science studies.



Horizon Power's Community and Customer Relations Manager Dave Shelton took the group on a guided tour through the generation shed which houses the generators and explained how electricity is created. The tour continued through the switch room and control centre where Horizon Power monitors the electricity in use in Carnarvon and makes sure enough electricity is being generated for the town's needs.

The tour concluded in the operations room where students watched a Horizon Power video and also interacted with Horizon Power's Discovery Zone website to learn more about energy efficient behaviour. The students wrote letters of appreciation for the tour and gift bags they received which contained a pencil, ruler, rocket, mini football and Easter eggs.

Works in Morgantown and Mt Magnet

Horizon Power's crews are currently in Mt Magnet working on a pole replacement program which is expected to take two to three weeks to complete. Following this work in Mt Magnet, the crews will return to Morgantown in late May to perform a planned outage to changeover the overhead consumer mains to an underground connection in Lukis Place, Ridley Place and Morrell Court.

The Shire of Carnarvon is surveying lot boundaries in Morgantown which will assist Horizon Power's crews ensure the underground electricity cables are in the correct alignment.

Reading your electricity bill

In recent months customers have been contacting our Gascoyne Mid West Regional Office with concerns that their electricity bill seems higher than normal. We have advertised these tips and encourage you to share this information with your staff and customers.

Does your bill seem higher than normal?

- Check the bill to see how many days it covers and compare this duration with previous bills. The bill may cover a longer period.
- Compare the average daily use with previous bills. More electricity may have been used in the summer months to keep cool.
- Check the Reading Type at the top of page two of the bill - if this reads 'estimate' then the bill will be adjusted when Horizon Power next reads the meter.

If customers would like some help checking their consumption, getting copies of old bills, or they are having difficulty making payment, please ask them to call or drop into the Gascoyne Mid West Regional Office and we will be pleased to help. Contact our office by calling **9941 6299**.