

# Aboriginal and Remote Communities Power Supply Project

**H**orizon Power called for competitive tenders for the power generation for the Aboriginal and Remote Communities Power Supply Project to obtain the best value, technically appropriate power stations to ensure a reliable supply of electricity in the five Aboriginal communities: Bidyadanga, Ardyaloon, Beagle Bay, Djarindjin/Lombadina and Warmun.

## All systems go

On 4 October 2006, a major milestone was reached when the contract Horizon Power signed with Energy Generation Pty Ltd (enGen) to construct five new power

stations and supply Horizon Power's future electricity needs in five remote Kimberley communities went unconditional.

The Power Purchase Agreement is for a ten year period.



▲ L-R Mike Laughton-Smith, General Manager Generation and Technical Services, Horizon Power congratulates Gary Ireson, Director Gas and Power, Wesfarmers Energy Ltd on the signing of the 10 year contract.

Mike Laughton-Smith, General Manager Generation & Technical Services and Pete Feldhusen, Company Secretary signed the contract on behalf of Horizon Power. Gary Ireson, Director Gas Development, Wesfarmers Energy and Paul Gardiner, Manager Corporate Secretarial Services, Wesfarmers Limited signed the contract on behalf of their fully owned subsidiary enGen.

## Warmun Community fast tracked

Construction of the Warmun power station is underway with a team of people on the ground preparing for the civil works. Commissioning of the power station is expected in February 2007.

As the distribution network upgrade and meter installation in the community is completed, Horizon Power will be offering retail services to Warmun residents at uniform tariff in mid December 2006. For the first time Warmun residents will enjoy the standard uniform tariff and where eligible, customers will have access to the various electricity rebates. Power will continue to be generated from the existing power station until the new power station is operational.

Representatives from Horizon Power are providing community education and a sausage sizzle in the community on 21 & 22 November to demonstrate the pre-payment meters and collect customer information.

## Community benefits

The local communities and major regional towns will benefit from the new power supply arrangements. Major benefits will include:

- During the power station construction period enGen will contract local service providers for site preparation work, and will purchase supplies and services from local communities where appropriate.



▲ *Civil works are under way for the new power station at Warmun.*

The new power stations will:

- use modern generating technology which reduces noise and air pollutants; and be located away from the communities which frees up land used by the existing power stations for more valuable community use.
- Once the new power supply arrangements are in place, the communities will be supplied at the State uniform tariff and residents with eligible benefits cards will be able to receive subsidies.
- enGen, via service providers, will provide front-line maintenance and

operations support for the power stations by suitably qualified and trained Essential Services Operators residing in the communities and employed on a part-time basis. Additional operations and maintenance support will be provided by service providers based in Broome and Kununurra.

- Horizon Power will also train and employ community residents as first response personnel in each community.

### **Power station sites**

Sites for the new power stations have been selected in each community.

The power station operator will comply with all environmental regulations in relation to fuel storage and water supply protection. An environmental plan must be prepared for each site, and the sites will be fully rehabilitated when the power stations are decommissioned and the site is no longer required for power generation.

Native Title Holders and Traditional Owners have granted heritage clearance over all sites. Land tenure was secured over all five power station sites by late September 2006.

New signage has been erected at the power station sites.

### **Internal wiring inspections**

An essential component of the project includes the compliance checking of all internal house wiring prior to the installation of meters. The Department of Housing and Works has engaged contractors to undertake this work.

#### **Contacts**

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### **Indicative Timetable**

Community	Network Upgrade	Meters	Power Station	Retail Preparation and Community Education
Warmun	3rd Quarter 2006	4th Quarter 2006	1st Quarter 2007	4th Quarter 2006
Ardyaloon	4th Quarter 2006	4th Quarter 2006	3rd Quarter 2007	2nd Quarter 2007
Beagle Bay	3rd Quarter 2007	3rd Quarter 2007	4th Quarter 2007	3rd Quarter 2007
Djarindjin/ Lombadina	2nd Quarter 2007	2nd Quarter 2007	4th Quarter 2007	3rd Quarter 2007
Bidyadanga	2nd Quarter 2007	2nd Quarter 2007	3rd Quarter 2007	2nd Quarter 2007