

MEDIA RELEASE

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Callide Power Station overhaul keeps Biloela busy

More than 300 additional people will be working at CS Energy's Callide Power Station over the next two months for the first stage of a major upgrade of the two B station units to extend their life and improve performance.

This has brought hundreds of contractors to Biloela, with many firms, including Hamon, Downer Edi, Broadspectrum and Clyde Babcock Hitachi, sourcing workers from the Central Queensland region.

Two years in the planning, the \$50 million overhaul will take the Callide B station offline while work crews perform maintenance and upgrade works on its two 350 megawatt generating units.

Running from 3 April to mid June, the overhaul includes a dual outage period of six weeks when both units are offline so work can be conducted on their shared cooling tower.

Callide Power Station Manager Kevin Harney said the planned works were fairly standard for a power station that was approaching its 22nd birthday.

"Most power stations of Callide B's vintage need overhauls of this size to keep them running reliably and efficiently into the future," Mr Harney said.

Major scheduled works include a control system upgrade, turbine life extension work and replacement of condenser tubes, cooling tower fill, boiler furnace waterwall tubing and air heater elements.

Callide B1 will return to service in mid-May and B2 in mid June. Next door, the 900 MW Callide C will continue generating electricity while the overhaul is on at Callide B.

The scale of the work is illustrated by these interesting statistics:

- 220 tonnes of fibre-reinforced plastic grids for new cooling tower fill.
- 24,000 condenser tubes to be replaced. The replaced condenser tubes will be recycled, equating to 160 tonnes of scrap aluminium brass.
- 125 tonnes of air heater baskets will be replaced.

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Caption for photo: Inside the Callide B Power Station cooling tower during a previous overhaul.

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