

MEDIA RELEASE

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CS Energy switched on to Earth Hour message

When people switch off their lights for Earth Hour this Saturday night, a small band of workers will stay 'switched on' in the control room of CS Energy's Callide Power Station.

Their job will be the same as every other shift – monitoring the plant and ensuring the power station's systems remain stable.

Callide Power Station is supporting Earth Hour by switching off all non-essential electricity at the power station, such as office lights, air conditioning and some internal lighting inside the turbine hall and cooling towers. As the power station is an industrial site, some lights will be kept on for safety reasons.

Station Manager Kevin Harney said power demand dropped by a reported ten percent across the east coast last year during Earth Hour, and encouraged more people to support the event this year.

"Air conditioners are one of the biggest consumers of electricity, so if people can turn off their air conditioner, as well as their lights, it will save a substantial amount of energy," Mr Harney said.

The only staff working at Callide Power Station during Earth Hour will be the control room operators, who monitor the station's output and electricity demand. These operators work on rotating shifts 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

"When people flick the switch at home, the power station generators adjust their output to ensure the frequency on the electrical system stays stable," Mr Harney said.

"The job of our operators is to ensure the generators work as programmed and make any necessary adjustments. These are the people who make sure the lights come back on when Earth Hour is finished this Saturday."

CS Energy is supporting Earth Hour as a company wide initiative at all four of its power stations. The Company is also a partner in the Callide Oxyfuel Project, one of the most advanced clean coal projects in Australia.

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