

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 Swanbank Power Station.

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

Swanbank 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 Alistair Brown 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 non-essential lights, it will save a substantial amount of energy," Mr Brown said.

During Earth Hour the control room operators will be monitoring the station's output and watching 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 Brown said.

"The job of our operators is to ensure the Station works as programmed and make any necessary adjustments."

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.

Contacts

Lisa White
CS Energy
Ph 07 3222 9386

Michelle Wilson
CS Energy
Ph: 07 3222 9857