

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

19 October 2007

### **Callide B Power Station turns 20**

CS Energy's Callide B Power Station is today celebrating the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first time it generated electricity into Queensland's power grid.

On 19 October 1987 at 7.28pm, Callide B 'synchronised' with the grid and in the 20 years since it has proven to be one of the state's most reliable power stations, supporting growth in Biloela and regional Queensland.

Callide B has a capacity of 700 megawatts, comprising two 350 MW Hitachi turbo generating units. Unit one was completed first, providing the first power in 1987, followed by unit two the next year.

The former Queensland Electricity Commission owned and operated Callide B at the time and the station was officially opened by then Premier Mike Ahern on 6 May 1988.

Callide B was built to replace Callide A (which closed in 1988) and brought many new residents to Biloela. The construction workforce peaked at 670 and the operational workforce for the completed power station was over 140, some of whom came from Callide A.

Technical Services Superintendent Ivan Mapp is one of many original Callide B staff members still working at the station and said they share a strong loyalty to the plant and the local community.

"At one time, Callide B held the Queensland record for operation, running continuously for 477 days," Ivan said. "Biloela is also a great place to bring up a family and there is a great team spirit amongst everyone working here."

CS Energy Portfolio Trading Manager John Barbera worked as a boiler engineer at Callide B in its early days and remembers an outage where a massive coal clinker had bridged the furnace throat, which took about two weeks to jackhammer clear.

"They've since learned how to manage this risk (which occurs in certain coals) so there have been very few forced outages from clinkers at Callide B since then," John said.

He said the first station manager Ted Scott introduced the "multi-skilling approach" where people had much broader roles compared to many other power stations in Queensland at the time.

“It was a great place for young people to get experience, as you were given more responsibility than at stations closer to the major cities,” John said.

Other staff who started at Callide B in 1987 and are still working at the station are Len Neale, Steve Jacobson, Des Smith, Alan Malon, Alan Tibbits, Craig Willis, David VanItallie, Gavin McMillan, Rod Moore, Bruce Kerr, Howard Murphy, Barry Cooper, Col Kane, John Stowe, Henry Hahn, Steve Corfield, Bryan Currier, Mal Breitreutz, Shane Price, Mick Wikman, Paul Barry, Laurie Perry, Tim Tansey, Warren Caught, Fay Thompson, Fred Prem, Steve Hoffman, Neil John Smith and Mark Stafford.

The successful operation of Callide B paved the way for the 900 MW Callide C, which was opened next door in 2001, making the Callide complex the third largest generating site in Queensland. Both plants are fuelled by black coal from Anglo’s neighbouring Callide Mine.

Work is currently underway on a major mid-life refit of Callide B to ensure it continues to operate reliably and economically for the remainder of its commercial life.

Callide A Power Station is the future site of the Callide Oxyfuel Project – a collaborative clean coal project between CS Energy, industry and research partners.

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