

MEDIA RELEASE

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Mica Creek celebrates golden anniversary

CS Energy's Mica Creek Power Station staff are preparing to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the first time the power station generated electricity for the northwest.

Fifty years ago this week on 28 May 1960, Mica Creek Power Station first sent out electricity to the Mount Isa grid. At the time, the station comprised one coal-fired generating unit of 30 megawatts, with coal railed from the Scottsvale district more than 1,000 kilometres away.

Since then, the station has converted to cleaner gas-fired generation, there are now 10 generation units and its capacity has increased to more than 300 MW to meet the region's growing power needs.

CS Energy Chief Executive David Brown is visiting Mica Creek on Wednesday (26 May) for a lunch time barbecue with staff at site to celebrate the historical milestone.

Acting Site Manager, and born and bred Mount Isa local, John McCullough says staff are proud of the power station's long history of providing reliable electricity to north west Queensland.

"In 2008/09, Mica Creek recorded a reliability figure of 99.9 per cent, which is a great result," Mr McCullough said.

"We strive to provide an uninterrupted electricity supply and it is a credit to the skill and dedication of Mica Creek staff that any interruptions are kept to a minimum."

Mount Isa Mines Limited owned Mica Creek Power Station at the time of its construction. CS Energy acquired the power station in the late 1990s.

CS Energy is continuing investigations into upgrade and expansion options for Mica Creek Power Station, and is seeking firm, long term power purchase agreements from customers to facilitate the necessary funding for expanding the power station.

Contacts

CS Energy Corporate Communications
Ph: 07 3222 9399