

MEDIA RELEASE

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Swanbank ready for Level 5 restrictions

CS Energy's Swanbank Power Station is ready to comply with proposed Level 5 Water Restrictions that will reduce its water allocation from Wivenhoe Dam to 15 ML per day.

CS Energy Chief Executive Mark Chatfield said the Company had been working with the Queensland Government, the Queensland Water Commission and other generators to determine the most appropriate operating regime to safeguard electricity supply under the proposed water restrictions.

The reductions, which are intended to take effect from 10 April, will have no impact on the 385 MW gas-fired Swanbank E Power Station, which is a highly water efficient plant and will continue to operate under the same regime.

Until recycled water becomes available, the 480 megawatt coal-fired Swanbank B Power Station will operate at reduced capacity.

Mr Chatfield said the reductions would result in no job losses at the power station and that Swanbank's reduced generation would still be sufficient to supply south-east Queensland.

"Swanbank staff have been preparing for the likelihood of Level 5 restrictions in recent months and have already made substantial cuts to Swanbank's water use.

"Earlier this year Swanbank reduced its raw water use by increasing the amount of times water is recycled through its cooling water system. This measure alone would have saved up to 727 megalitres annually and result in an 8.6 per cent reduction in water use.

"Swanbank was also the first Ipswich business to submit a Water Efficiency Management Plan to Ipswich Water in February, which outlined how we have reduced our town water usage by 25 per cent.

"The station has also changed its maintenance schedule to reduce our water requirements prior to the delivery of recycled water to the station later this year."

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