

Monday, 31 August 2020

MEDIA RELEASE

LED street light project to provide long-term benefits

Work to upgrade more than 718 street lights to energy efficient technology will begin this week as part of a major energy efficiency project that will save hundreds of thousands in electricity bills and reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the Bland Shire.

The switch to LED technology will see a 250 MWh per year reduction in power use, delivering savings of approximately \$75,000 each year in maintenance and electricity costs.

Director of Technical Services Will Marsh said Bland Shire Council is committed to becoming more sustainable and the LED upgrade is just one initiative in Council's long term strategies to achieve energy and operational efficiencies into the future.

"Street lighting is a significant expense for Council and with more than 700 streetlights across Council's footprint, the upgrade will go a long way to reducing costs and providing significant long-term savings," Mr Marsh said.

"LEDs are far more energy efficient, require less maintenance and have a significantly longer life."

LED streetlights consuming around 17 watts each will replace existing high-energy lights consuming between 50 and 100 watts.

"Council is investing approximately \$288,000 to complete the bulk upgrade, with the costs expected to be recouped within a period of 3.16 years," Mr Marsh said.

Essential Energy streetlight Manager Adele Finch said the organisation continues to work closely with Councils across its distribution area and is committed to providing information and services that are appropriate to Councils' needs and those of the communities they serve. Miss Finch acknowledged the valuable input from the Southern Lights NSW Project, whose partners are working closely with Essential Energy to ensure the successful delivery of the project.

"Essential Energy is responsible for the maintenance and billing of more than 160,000 streetlights serving more than 85 councils across New South Wales and parts of Southern Queensland," Miss Finch said.

"Public lighting plays an important role in providing safe, secure and attractive public areas for both pedestrians and motorists."

"The new LED street lighting for Bland Shire Council will not only provide a more reliable, better quality lighting service, but will deliver savings of more than 55 per cent in energy consumption."



www.blandshire.nsw.gov.au

PO Box 21, West Wyalong NSW 2671
Ph: 02 6972 2266 Fax: 02 6972 2145
Email: council@blandshire.nsw.gov.au

Ray Smith
GENERAL MANAGER

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“This type of light also provides future potential for other ‘smart’ applications to be added and will allow Essential Energy to more effectively manage the streetlight network and respond more promptly to potential outages,” Miss Finch said.

For more information contact

Craig Sutton
Community Relations Officer

Phone - 02 69722 266 or Email – council@blandshire.nsw.gov.au

www.blandshire.nsw.gov.au

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