



Solar switch warning



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# On the horizon



## Energy Minister opens new power station in Carnarvon

Carnarvon residents are now receiving their power supply from a new power station, Horizon Power's state-of-the-art Mungullah Power Station at Brown Range.

The power station produced power from its diesel generators for the first time in January and has undergone commissioning and reliability trials over recent months. The gas-fuelled generating sets began exporting power to the town on 13 June, with a seamless transition from the old station to the new Mungullah station. Once the last reliability trial is completed this month, the station will be fully commissioned.

Treasurer and Minister for Energy, Dr Mike Nahan, visited Carnarvon on Friday 23 May to tour the new station and officially open it, along with Mining and Pastoral Region MLC Mark Lewis and Member for North West Central Vince Catania. Horizon Power staff, including Chairman Brendan Hammond and Managing Director Frank Tudor, along with local business owners and Shire members attended.

The Mungullah Power Station represents a significant investment by Horizon Power and the Government of Western Australia into power infrastructure in the Gascoyne region.

Minister Nahan said he was pleased to visit Carnarvon and to see the progress of the new power station.

"The State Government is committed to ensuring that everyone in Western Australia, regardless of where they live, has access to the safest, most reliable electricity supply possible," he said.

Horizon Power Managing Director Frank Tudor said the new power station had been delivered on time and budget and would deliver power to the community quietly and efficiently.



Minister Nahan and Senior Project Manager Kim Bryan

## Mungullah Power Station fast facts

- Project duration: March 2011 – June 2014
- Five diesel-fuelled generators, five gas-fuelled generators and connects to Dampier to Bunbury gas pipeline.
- The power station has been designed to ensure extra generation capacity and renewable energy can be incorporated in the future.
- Horizon Power worked alongside the traditional owners and custodians of the area, the Gnulli people, throughout the project. Mungullah is the Aboriginal name in the Yinggarda language for the hill on which the power station is located
- The new power station has been built six kilometres out of the Carnarvon town to reduce any noise impact on residents.



## The price of electricity increased from 1 July 2014

The State Government announced the increase when the Budget was handed down in May. The increase is less than 4.5 per cent for most customers except for medium/large business on the L4 tariff and government customers on N2 and P2 tariffs.

The uniform electricity tariff for residential customers will increase by slightly more than four per cent, from 25.91 cents per unit of electricity to 27 cents, which includes the cost of carbon.

To assist families with this tariff increase, the Government has increased the Cost of Living Allowance (CoLA) by 4.5 per cent from \$208 to \$217 a year. Last year, the Government made this CoLA payment available to residents who live in group homes, such as nursing homes and caravan parks.

Other rebates and subsidies, such as the dependent child rebate and the air-conditioning subsidy, will also increase by 4.5 per cent from 1 July.

Your Horizon Power electricity bill included with this newsletter will include the tariff for electricity used before 1 July 2014 and the new tariff used after 1 July.

There will be no increase in fees and charges from 1 July 2014. There was no increase in fees and charges by Horizon Power.

### Financial assistance

If you are having difficulty paying your electricity bill, Horizon Power can offer a payment extension or customised payment schedule. We can also refer you to a financial counsellor who can help you apply for the Hardship Utilities Grant Scheme (HUGS). HUGS provides financial assistance to people in financial hardship to assist with paying bills and to avoid disconnection. Contact us on **1800 267 926** for more information.

The value of rebates that Horizon Power pays on behalf of the State Government will increase by 4.5 per cent from 1 July 2014.

## How does the electricity price change affect you?

Horizon Power has forecast the average weekly increase in electricity costs expected for each of the regions in our service area. This is a guide based on the "average customer" (customers on the A2 and K2 tariff) in your region.

If you live in the Pilbara region, your average estimated weekly increase in electricity costs based on the new tariff is \$3.26 a week from 1 July 2014.

If you live in the Kimberley, the average estimated weekly increase in electricity costs is \$2.58 a week.

If you live in the Esperance region, which includes Norseman and Hopetoun, your average weekly increase is expected to be in the order of \$1.20 a week.

If you live in the Gascoyne/Mid West region, your average weekly increase is expected to be \$1.83.



## Warning about dangerous solar system switches

Horizon Power wishes to share advice issued by EnergySafety about dangerous switches used in some solar systems since 1 January, 2012.

Director of Energy Safety Ken Bowron said switches formed part of all solar installations and while these particular switches had been sold in WA since January 2012, a “stop sale” order had now been issued, preventing any more being sold in WA.

“The switches listed are faulty, and have caused fires in homes and businesses in Queensland and New South Wales,” Mr Bowron said.

If anyone had a solar system installed after January 2012, the switches should be checked immediately. If the switches listed opposite have been installed, you should shut down the solar system by following the shut-down procedure which appears on a label in the main switchboard or is mounted near the inverter. Contact a licensed electrical contractor or the company that sold you the system to have them replaced.

### The defective brands and models include:

#### Avanco DC Isolators

AV/DC4P25A	AV/DC2P25A
AV/DC4P25AUB	AV/DC2P625AU
AV/DC2P25AU	AV/DC2/2P25AU
AV/DC2/2P125AU	AV/DC4P25AU
AV/DC4P25AUS	AV/DC4P25AUT

#### PVPower DC Isolators

All Types

#### GEN3 Rotary Type DC Isolators

GEN3DC-25	GEN3DC-32
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#### SPM Rotary Type DC Isolators

SPMDCISO-25A	SPMDCISO-32A
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## Reminder: be safe around electrical assets

The message of being safe around electricity needs to be reinforced following a spate of recent incidents in which private machinery operators and members of the public have caused damage to Horizon Power assets.

In one recent incident in Karratha, where a contractor clearing a housing site hit a Horizon Power mini pillar containing live electrical wiring and other electrical apparatus, power to residents was disrupted for at least an hour and a Horizon Power crew member was injured.

Karratha linesman Josh Reeves spent a week in Perth receiving treatment for burns after he attended the fault caused by damage to the mini pillar.

In just one year, Horizon Power has recorded in excess of 280 incidents in which a third party, which means someone not employed by Horizon Power, damaged assets with their cars or machinery.

These include cutting through cable or knocking over mini pillars and in some cases, acts of vandalism, some of which result in outages.

If you see any damage to electrical infrastructure or want to report a fault please call Horizon Power on **13 23 51**. Dial **000** in emergency situations. For your own safety, never approach a fallen powerline or any other damaged infrastructure.

## Energy efficiency competition winners

Thanks to all of our Facebook followers for sharing their electrical safety tips. Congratulations to Kerrie Goodchild from Derby, and her partner Robert McGeachin, who entered our Energy Efficiency competition and won! Kerrie was personally awarded the \$250 fuel voucher when in town with son Eric who was at the Broome Camp School. We agree with Kerrie’s tip: “Turn everything off (at the switch), especially when you go away” as a good way to save money on your power bill.

The other lucky winners of our competition were Rachael Wilson, Jodie Bower and Renae Richardson from Esperance.



## First aid on hand

West Kimberley Community Liaison and Compliance Coordinator Terry Shadforth had his newly learned first aid training skills put to the test on a recent trip to Carnarvon.

Mr Shadforth finished his St John Ambulance first aid training in September last year with other West Kimberley staff.

On flight from Carnarvon in May, Mr Shadforth went to the aid of a fellow passenger who became unconscious and began convulsing. Mr Shadforth was able to make him safe and provide him with oxygen, and was slightly relieved when a fellow passenger came forward and identified himself as a doctor. Horizon Power’s staff who work in the field, which includes all crew and meter readers, receive first aid training.



# Community events

## West Pilbara

### Cossack Art Awards 18 July – 10 August

The Cossack Art Awards attracts thousands of people every year to the small town of Cossack to highlight the high calibre of artists in the region. The official opening of the exhibition to the public is 20 July following the awards presentation night. For more information, please visit [www.cossackartawards.com.au](http://www.cossackartawards.com.au)



### Karratha Little Athletics 2014 Season

The Karratha Little Athletics Club was started in Karratha in 2010 and has grown into a very active club with more than 95 kids enrolled for the 2014 season. Horizon Power is a proud supporter of this Club. Children aged from 7 to 15 compete to improve their personal best times in a range of track and field events.

### Teddy Bears' Picnic 24 July

The LINK Teddy Bears' Picnic is a free community event for families with children aged 0-6 years. There will be a variety of children's activities with bouncy castles, rides and entertainment. For more event information please contact Bess on 9144 2150 or email [link\\_karratha@bigpond.com](mailto:link_karratha@bigpond.com)

## East Pilbara

### Port Hedland CCI Business Awards 20 September

The Port Hedland Chamber of Commerce and Industry Business of the Year Awards recognise and reward the achievements of local and small businesses and individuals who demonstrate a high standard in business in the Port Hedland community. Nomination forms are available from North West Telegraph or Port Hedland Chamber Of Commerce offices. For more information visit [www.phcci.com.au](http://www.phcci.com.au) or visit the PHCCI on Facebook.

## West Kimberley

### Derby Boab Festival July 4 – 20 July

In its 53rd year, this is Western Australia's longest running town festival. The Horizon Power Float Parade is a feature of this event that celebrates the lifestyle of the West Kimberley, including the Mowanjum Festival, Bush Poets Breakfast, Mad Hatters Race Day, Fitzroy Crossing Camp Draft Rodeo, King Tide Day and more. For more information, contact: [boabfestival@gmail.com](mailto:boabfestival@gmail.com)

## Gascoyne/Mid West

### Meekatharra Outback Festival 26-28 September

A small outback town, elite athletes, \$50,000 up for grabs, a bitumen street as the track. Combine this with dirt track horse racing, fireworks, market stalls, bands and street entertainment all weekend for the kids and you have yourself the outback experience that is Leonora's Golden Gift Carnival! For more event information visit [www.leonoragoldengift.com](http://www.leonoragoldengift.com)



## Esperance

### Esperance CCI Business Excellence Awards 30 August

The annual ECCI Business Excellence Awards are the highlight of the business calendar in the Esperance region and Horizon Power is proudly sponsoring the Best Community Service Organisation category.

This year, the nomination process has changed and nominees will participate in an interview process instead of providing detailed written submissions. There are 15 categories to suit all types of businesses. To nominate your business visit [www.esperancecci.com.au](http://www.esperancecci.com.au) or email [admin@esperancecci.com.au](mailto:admin@esperancecci.com.au)

### Esperance Agricultural Show 17 to 18 October

Horizon Power will have a stand at the 63rd annual Esperance Agricultural Show, Esperance's most popular community event. Come to the show for some great family entertainment and be sure to stop by and say hi to the Horizon Power staff. We will be running a competition to help promote our energy saving tips for your home and business.

## Regional Achievement and Community Awards

These awards highlight and reward the valuable contribution of businesses, young people, leaders, towns, environment and sustainability initiatives, individuals and communities involved in the development of regional and rural WA.

Horizon Power sponsors the Leadership and Innovation Award. This award recognises individuals who are the 'driving force' in their community through their tenacity, dedication and selflessness.

Visit [www.awardsaustralia.com](http://www.awardsaustralia.com) for nomination forms and further information. Nominations close 13 August.

## Contact us

### Account and general enquiries

Residential account enquiries  
**1800 267 926**  
Business account enquiries  
**1800 737 036**  
Emergency or supply interruptions  
**13 23 51**  
Faulty streetlights and poles  
**1800 264 914**  
TTY  
**1800 461 499**  
Interpreter service  
**13 14 50**

[enquiries@horizonpower-reply.com.au](mailto:enquiries@horizonpower-reply.com.au)  
[www.horizonpower.com.au](http://www.horizonpower.com.au)

### Regional offices

You can visit or contact one of Horizon Power's regional offices regarding local supply issues.

**Broome**  
Lot 1050 McDaniel Road  
BROOME WA 6725  
Ph: (08) 9192 9900

**Esperance**  
143 Sims Street  
ESPERANCE WA 6450  
Ph: (08) 9072 3400

**Gascoyne and Mid West**  
Corner Iles Road & Robinson Street  
CARNARVON WA 6701  
Ph: (08) 9941 6299

**Karratha**  
Stovehill Rd  
KARRATHA WA 6714  
Ph: (08) 9159 7250

**Kununurra**  
Lot 228 Messmate Way  
KUNUNURRA WA 6743  
Ph: (08) 9166 4700

**Port Hedland**  
18 Anderson Street  
PORT HEDLAND WA 6721  
Ph: (08) 9173 8281