Final testing begins on new $26.3 million zone substation

Final testing has begun on a $26.3 million zone substation at Palmerston as one of four new substations to come online as part of a $1.6 billion upgrade to the Northern Territory’s power network.

Minister for Essential Services, Rob Knight said commissioning of the new zone substation is now underway and will be ready to come online by mid next year.

“This is a $26.3 million injection into increasing the capacity of the Top Ends’ power supplies and providing future growth for Palmerston for generations to come,” Mr Knight said.

“It will provide electricity to 3,700 new houses to come online over the next five years and increase supplies to cater for the increase growth for new suburbs.

“It will take power from the two new 45MW dual fuel turbine generators at Channel Island and covert the energy into power to supply the new suburbs of Zuccoli, Johnston, Mitchell and Bellamack.

“Palmerston is one of the fastest growing local government areas in Australia - this new substation will ensure the infrastructure is in place for new house to come online as Palmerston grows.

“The new $26.3 million zone substation station is being run through its final paces and is due to come online by mid next year.”

The new Archer zone substation at Palmerston includes:
- A new 27 Mega Volt Ampere transformer
- A new 66000 volt transmission line from Archer Zone Substation to Hudson Creek Substation

Minister Knight said the latest Access Economic report showed the Northern Territory economy was strengthened by record levels of government investment and accelerated land release.

“Latest economic data show the Government’s fast-tracked land release has played a key part in underpinning the growth in Territory’s economy,” Minister Knight said.

“The Northern Territory Government is investing more than $1.6 billion into upgrading the Territory’s power and water network to provide growth for the future.
“We are building new substations at Marrakai, Lovegrove, and Leanyer to provide increase capacity as the Territory grows.

“Final testing of the new $160 million new Owen Springs Power Station Project at Alice Springs has also begun which once up and running will boost the capacity of Alice Springs power supply by 30 per cent.

“This is on top of our growing network of renewable energy power stations including the newly purchased $8.5 million solar power projects at Hermannsburg, Lajamanu and Yuendumu.”

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