

# Enviro

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# Downer receives funding

## for industry leading environmental solution

The NSW Environmental Trust has accepted Downer's proposal for a \$1 million grant as part of the Trust's Innovation in Priority Problem Wastes Grants Program.

Our Roads team will implement a new resource recovery facility in Rosehill, targeting waste from maintenance activities such as street sweeping and stormwater pit clearing. Up to 40,000 tonnes of waste material will be treated each year using customised material screening, separation and water treatment processes.

Dante Cremasco, EGM Road Services, Infrastructure Services, says his team is thrilled to have been successful in its proposal, as our proposed solution sets a new benchmark in the industry for waste recycling.

*"The facility is the first of its kind in NSW and provides the opportunity for the Environment Protection Authority and Downer to partner in developing a solution that has immediate local benefit and long term application in the road maintenance and construction industry. It directly assists the EPA, local councils and road network authorities in working towards their sustainability targets such as increasing municipal waste recycling and decreasing the amount of waste reaching landfill."*

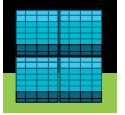
The program will bring many benefits including lowering the cost of stormwater drain maintenance to rate payers and creating cleaner waterways. Additional benefits include:

- Reduced raw material transportation movements on local roads;
- Decreased price pressure from landfill disposal;
- Lower burden on virgin aggregate and potable water;
- Lowers overall Greenhouse Gas Emissions.



Plant 3D image

This project was supported by the Environmental Trust as part of the NSW EPA's Waste Less, Recycle More initiative, funded from the waste levy.



# Downer wins new Queensland solar farm contract



## The Ross River Solar Farm will be constructed over 12 months

The award of this contract was another demonstration of Downer's leadership in the renewable energy sector.

Downer has been awarded a contract valued at approximately \$200 million by Palisade Investment Partners (Palisade) and ESCO Pacific (ESCO) for the Ross River Solar Farm near Townsville.

The 148MW\* Farm will be built with approximately 420,000 monocrystalline solar photovoltaic modules and has a 13-year Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with EnergyAustralia.

The Chief Executive Officer of Downer, Grant Fenn, said: "Downer is a leader in delivering large scale renewable projects and is currently constructing the 100MW Clare Solar Farm, 15MW Sunshine Coast Solar Farm, and 240MW Ararat Wind Farm."

*"When the Ross River Solar Farm is completed, Downer will have facilitated the delivery of more than 2.3GW of renewable energy to the Australian market."*

*"We look forward to working closely with Palisade and ESCO to deliver the Ross River Solar Farm, one of Australia's largest solar energy projects."*

Palisade Managing Director and CEO, Roger Lloyd, said: "We are delighted to work with Downer to build this standout project in North Queensland which delivers on Palisade's renewables strategy and diversifies our portfolio of operational wind assets."

ESCO Pacific's Managing Director, Steve Rademaker, said: "We're pleased to partner with Downer on what is a landmark project. Downer's experience in delivering high quality renewable energy projects was a critical factor in their selection as preferred construction partner and we look forward to Downer delivering the project over the coming months."

Notice to proceed has been issued to Downer under the EPC contract and construction is scheduled to take 12 months.



# Lighting the way with VicRoads



Our Road Network Management business has won a \$28m 10-year VicRoads contract to replace and maintain street lighting in Melbourne.

The contract involves the upgrade and maintenance of approximately 8,000 street lights in the Melbourne metropolitan area to new LED (light emitting diode) technology, with central monitoring and control capability.

Stuart Billing, National General Manager – Road Network Management said: “We’re very pleased to continue growing our partnership with VicRoads by bringing even more value to the local community by delivering on our customer’s strategy to build, operate and maintain a more sustainable road system.”

*“LED street lighting improves safety and security through improved visibility, saves money by consuming less electricity and has a positive impact on the environment due to the increased life expectancy of LED luminaires.”*

What’s more, the technology of the new network for VicRoads will see more efficient asset management and increase energy saving,” added Stuart.

The smart lighting control system can control each individual light remotely to adapt to, for example, environmental factors.

The initial upgrade of the network will take about a year and is the first large scale smart lighting rollout in a major metro area in Australia.

Energy savings from LEDs automatically means a lower carbon footprint.

WATER



# Horowhenua Water Alliance



Downer has been awarded a New Zealand first with the awarding of the Horowhenua District Council 'Three Waters' Alliance for the operation, maintenance and renewal of its drinking-water, wastewater and stormwater assets.

Combining the three water services into one Alliance is a first-of-its-kind in New Zealand and will take effect from July 2017. This contract is an extension of the work Downer has provided to Council since 1997.

Council's Infrastructure Services Group Manager Gallo Saidy said the Three Waters contract is also a collaborative outsourced contract, better-known as an alliance contract.

*"If you look at the values Downer has demonstrated over the years, they are well aligned with the Horowhenua values. It's a great community to work for and there are no barriers to innovation. This is a community where we can make a difference together and set the scene for others to follow."*

"We aim to build up a team that can deliver, from both organisations. Downer has worked in this area for a long time and the team that they have here have a good local knowledge of the infrastructure. They have strong relationships, they make a difference in the community and I'm sure we'll enjoy working more closely together."

"If you look at the values Downer has demonstrated over the years, they are well aligned with the Horowhenua values. It's a great community to work for and there are no barriers to innovation. This is a community where we can make a difference together and set the scene for others to follow."

As one of New Zealand's leading service providers in the water sector, Downer is committed to continuous innovation and improved delivery for our customers.



WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

# World Environment Day 2017



Monday, 5 June, marked World Environment Day (WED), the biggest annual event for positive environmental action.

'Connecting People to Nature', the theme for World Environment Day 2017, encouraged us to get outdoors and into nature, to appreciate its beauty and its importance. Downer employees participated by taking pictures and videos of themselves in their favourite place in nature.

Please see a collection of great shots below. The best contributions will receive prizes – winners soon to be announced! **Check out the entries on iDowner.**



## I'm With Nature



WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

OUR PEOPLE



# Downer's very own man of steel!

Downer's Port Augusta Rail Maintenance Facility decided to embark on a project to create a mascot for the site.

They wanted it to be visible from the site entrance to capture the creativity of the employees and create a talking point for visitors.

One of our employees volunteered for the project, carrying out the job in his own time.

In total, 5 tonnes of scrap metal was recycled and utilised comprising the following key features:

- 1 Bogie and wheel sets
- 2 Man – re-modelled wagon and rail infrastructure components



## 60 seconds with...



**Nick Hogan,**  
*National Environmental Sustainability Advisor,*  
North Ryde.

### What does your role involve?

My job is to provide offsite support to projects from a sustainability perspective. At the moment I am in Adelaide working on the Adelaide Light Rail. Previous to this I worked on the Newcastle Light Rail in NSW as well as other rail and civil projects.

### Why is environmental sustainability important to you?

I believe it is extremely important to understand the environmental issues when undertaking construction projects. I want our future generations to enjoy the beautiful surroundings that we have today.

### What do you find most challenging about your role?

The most challenging part of my role is educating teams and creating understanding of the importance of environmental sustainability. In particular, creating awareness of where the environmental requirements come from and how this is important to the project.

### What do you find rewarding about your role?

Finding practical and creative solutions that tie into project requirements is extremely rewarding. It means that I can do something positive for the environment and equally add value to the project.

### How has Downer differed from other companies you've worked for in the past?

Downer is extremely diverse in the nature of its work. There is such a massive variety between the businesses, and a lot of cool and interesting projects.

### What is your favourite thing to do outside of work?

When I'm not at work I love to travel. My favourite place I've been to is South America, including South Argentina, Brazil and Peru.

### You're happiest when?

I'm definitely happiest when I am spending time outdoors in the summer.

### What's your biggest pet peeve?

People who drive recklessly on the road – I can't stand poor drivers!

# Gender diversity

Nicola Wilkins, Senior Engineer – Renewable Energy in our Utilities business has been awarded the Developing Women Director's Scholarship from the Clean Energy Council (CEC), the peak body for the clean energy industry in Australia.

CEC's Developing Women Director's Scholarship aims to help make clean energy boardrooms more inclusive by giving talented women the practical skills to move into director roles.

"Nicola Wilkins was a stand-out candidate for the Developing Women Director's Scholarship, and has ticked off working in almost every corner of the renewable energy industry," Clean Energy Council Chief Executive Kane Thornton said.

"The next logical step for Ms Wilkins is to a clean energy boardroom role, and we hope that this scholarship provides her with some of the tools required to make that jump and start having a positive impact at the director level.



"I'm excited to be selected as the recipient of the Developing Women Director's Scholarship," said Nicola, pictured.

"I applaud the CEC for supporting gender diversity of boards in the clean energy industry and look forward to making the most of this opportunity."

For more information on the Clean Energy Council's Women in Renewables initiative, visit [cleanenergycouncil.org.au/women](http://cleanenergycouncil.org.au/women).



# Powerlink

## Transmission

Downer is assisting Powerlink Queensland and James Cook University with the implementation of an innovative environmental monitoring program.

The research project aims to assess the potential adverse impacts of maintenance operations on transmission towers within sensitive environmental areas.

The project involves abrasive blasting and repainting of steel towers on the 132 kV transmission line between Kareeya and Chalumbin substations, approximately 55 km southwest of Innisfail in Far North Queensland. The transmission line traverses the Tully Gorge and Koombooloomba National Parks located within the World Heritage Wet Tropics Area.

Abrasive blasting and repainting is used to extend the operational life of transmission towers which can minimise the overall life cycle costs of the asset. Undertaking preventative maintenance on towers reduces the requirement for decommissioning and construction of new towers and the associated environmental impacts.

However, the potential adverse impacts of the spent media fallout from abrasive blasting activities to the adjacent environment are not well quantified.

**The research project will look at impacts on soil conditions and ecological values, such as plant, animal and aquatic ecosystem health.**

During an audit of the operations, Powerlink said: "Downer is going above and beyond to assist in the daily deployment of monitoring discs for the additional environmental monitoring component of the project."

Preliminary results from the monitoring program are anticipated early next year. James Cook University is looking to publish a paper on the findings of the monitoring program.

## Resource efficiency

Many regional worksites dispose of hundreds of tonnes of waste timber pallets to landfill, annually.

Our teams at the Ararat Wind Farm and Sunshine Coast Solar Farm have worked with our recycling partners and the local communities to find a smarter solution.

In Ararat, we have mulched the timber for local gardens to improve soil and decrease water use. At the Sunshine Coast Solar Farm we have donated the pallets to the local Men's Shed not-for-profit organisation.

### Disposing to landfill in regional centres can:

- Cost up to \$170/tonne; and
- Emit 600kg of greenhouse gases (CO<sub>2</sub>-e) per tonne of wood waste.

Downer is committed to implementing sustainable initiatives that save the equivalent of 30% of our energy and carbon footprint by FY19. If you have implemented an initiative that may decrease our environmental impact please talk to a member of the Zero Harm or Environmental team.



**Have you got a story idea?**

**Know how we can make Enviro News better?**

Send your suggestions to: [Corporate.Affairs@downergroup.com](mailto:Corporate.Affairs@downergroup.com)

Over 70kg of carbon (CO<sub>2</sub>) were neutralised using Bite Visual Communications Group for this project. [www.bitevisual.com.au](http://www.bitevisual.com.au)

