



MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

Approved for release by: Cr Ken Keith, Chair of Centroc
Date for release: 26 March 2013

Council set to save substantially with regional approach to lighting

"I was very pleased to hear at the recent Centroc meeting in Wellington of the successful regional lighting tender" said Cr Ken Keith Chair of Centroc and Mayor of Parkes Shire Council.

"The work being done building on the successful Australian Government Community Energy Efficiency Program in the region is outstanding, we are saving money and energy and when procuring regionally using industry expertise we win again,"

"While Forbes, Parkes, Weddin, Young, Harden, Boorowa, Upper Lachlan, Blayney, Cowra, Lithgow and Cabonne have received matched funding from the Community Energy Efficiency Program for work ranging from the installation of energy efficient lighting to energy efficient heating at swimming pools, all Centroc members are able to take part in the procurement of energy efficient lighting," said Cr Keith.

"Tackling these projects regionally has a number of benefits. We sought expert advice on the tender as we identified that there are a lot of risks with substandard lighting technologies. That was really good as for every Council to have purchased this help individually would have added up to over \$20,000 across Central NSW."

"We have a separable tender so we can either buy the lights and install them ourselves or have the whole lot done by reputable experts from Central NSW," said Cr Keith

"The successful tenderer has offered fully refundable audits for lighting of all buildings for participating Councils. As an added benefit is that the company doing the audit is registered with the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage and has access to funding to reduce the cost of lighting for some technologies," said Cr Keith.

"The cost of electricity has a huge impact on Council's budgets and this will only go up. So the idea is to use less and introduce renewables. These initiatives will help councils save money on their electricity bills and reduce their carbon footprint relating to electricity usage while promoting energy efficiency to our communities," said Cr Keith.

"It is anticipated that this program will increase the energy efficiency of a range of council assets by an average of at least 20%" said Cr Keith.

"We are pleased to be working in partnership with the Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency on these great initiatives," said Cr Keith.

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