



MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

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Central NSW Councils – Smoke out energy efficiency measures

“The Centroc Water Utilities Alliance (CWUA) is eagerly anticipating the outcome of a \$4.7M project proposal submitted to round two of the Department of Climate Change’s Community Energy Efficiency Program,” said Councillor Ken Keith, Chair of Centroc.

“The “Nexus between Energy and Water” project is an innovative regional initiative of the CWUA to reduce the energy needed to operate pump stations for sewage and water treatment plants across the region. A regional program of works including smoke testing will reduce sewer and water infiltration caused by ageing infrastructure such as breakages in pipes,” said Cr Keith.

“The pumping of water has been identified as a huge and unavoidable rateable cost for Councils in the region. Reductions in system infiltration and leakages will have a long term impact on the overall efficiency of sites across the region by reducing the pumping load,” said Cr Keith.

“Smoke testing will be used to identify infiltration sites at approximately 3,900 properties resulting in remediation work that will, in some cases, avoid costs to rate payers of the need to install new infrastructure,” said Cr Keith.

“Efforts to improve efficiencies and reduce costs will benefit our communities, particularly the low-socio economic demographic, by ensuring that council’s rates for these essential services are kept to a minimum,” said Cr Keith.

“The Local Government Review Panel has said that regional collaboration must increase with new models to facilitate joint planning and resource sharing. Central NSW Councils are doing their part by working together on programs such as this that share resources and deliver cost savings while ensuring increased efficiencies and best practice in delivering critical infrastructure and services to their communities” said Cr Keith.

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