

New sign keeps Woodside community connected

New signage at Woodside Community Hall will help keep the community connected, informed and prepared, thanks to support from Iberdrola Australia.

The large billboard-style sign will play an important role in emergency situations, inviting people to visit the hall for recovery, to access emergency power or to connect with others.

The hall is a 'Community Activated Hub for Recovery and Resilience' and is the only publicly accessible site in town that offers emergency power. During prolonged power outages and post-emergencies the new sign will be used to advertise opening times.

It features changeable letters which will also allow advertising of regular and one-off events and activities taking place at the hall.

Woodside is one of the closest towns to Iberdrola Australia's proposed Aurora Green Offshore Wind Project, which is located 25+ kilometers off the coast between Seaspray/The Honeysuckles and Woodside Beach.

Paul Simshauser, Chief Executive Officer, Iberdrola Australia said the new sign would help Woodside to stay connected.

"We are well aware of the isolation that can occur in smaller rural communities during power outages and during recovery from emergencies such as bushfires and storms," Mr Simshauser said.

"We want to make sure we can make a positive difference in the communities where we are developing our assets, and to look after them.

"Providing signage to help keep Woodside people and visitors informed about one of the town's most important assets – the community hall – is one of the ways we can make that difference."

Woodside Community Hall committee secretary Jane Gordon said the new signage replaced a small children's blackboard, which had made it difficult to reach all members of the community to communicate events, particularly for those without social media.

"Our committee could not have ever considered a billboard without the generous support of Iberdrola Australia," Ms Gordon said.

"The billboard has given our hall more street appeal, visitors to the area can clearly see that we are the community hall. We found a lot of people did not recognise our building as the community hall due to lack of signage.

"Hall users appreciate the advertisement we can now provide on the billboard. We are enormously proud of the new addition to the hall grounds.

“Our committee understands the huge impact to our area with the possibility of wind turbines. We appreciate the efforts of Iberdrola Australia to support the communities directly affected by the proposed wind farm projects.”

For information on Iberdrola Australia’s Community Funds and Sponsorship program visit www.iberdrola.com.au

Aurora Green Offshore Wind project fast facts:

- The site is located 25km+ off the Gippsland coast
- 3GW of electricity powering up to 2.25 million households
- 1800 jobs during construction and 600 jobs in operations
- \$8 billion boost to Victorian economy

Media contact:

Nino Lalic | Executive Manager Corporate Affairs

nino.lalic@iberdrola.com.au or media@iberdrola.com.au

0413 165 933

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